THE IDEAL EASTER PRESENT. See Page 14.

JOHN BULL

VOL. XXV. No. 672. SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 1919. TWOPENCE.

[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

Edited by HORATIO BOTTOMLEY

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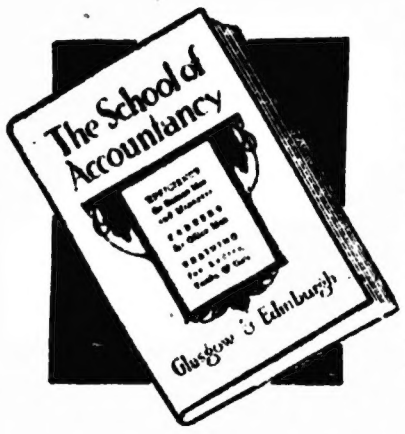

This is a plain, true statement of fact. It is no exaggeration. Employers everywhere are looking for trained men as Organisers, Office and Works Managers, Accountants, etc., and are willing to pay high salaries if they can get the right men.

Such men are not born. They are made by training and study. Scores of men who were ordinary office clerks are now holding positions and getting big salaries. These didn't come by "waiting for something to turn up" The men put in their spare time in study and training under expert guidance. Are you sufficiently enthusiastic and ambitious to follow their example?

The School of Accountancy offers this expert guidance and training through its postal courses. The efficiency of its training has been amply demonstrated and proven—it is not an experiment. It gives personal training adapted to the student's circumstances, his peculiar requirements, his capacity, the time at his disposal. It leads him, step by step, to the completion of his training. Some finish the course in a few months, others take much onger. It depends upon the time devoted to study and the aptitude of the pupil. The moderate fee is in any case the same.

This booklet, which is free and post free, gives particulars of the various courses of study, for these differ according to individual requirements. It gives the names and addresses of students who have "made good" and to whom reference can be made. Write for a copy to-day if you want £300, or £600, or £1,000 a year. Train for the big sums and you will get them.

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Smoke one and if you do not like it, I return your money.

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"The finest place on earth for a holida." The Cunningham Young Men's Holiday Camp, Douglas Isle of Man, reopens Saturday, 31st May. Write J. J. Cunningham for illustrated booklet free.

CAMPING OUT. **CAMPING OUT.**

THE MOST WONDERFUL VALUE IN THE RAINCOAT WORLD TO-DAY

You will want a new Raincoat sooner or later, so don't put the matter off until it does rain and then buy the first you see.

If you seek greater Style and greater value, the coat for you is the beautifully tailored, proper fitting "SARTOR" Raincoat. It is only because we are the actual Manufacturers that we can afford to sell them at the astonishingly low price of

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So don't delay another day, and if you are not perfectly satisfied we willingly refund your money. Made in reliable quality Gabardine Cloth, in various shades, fully lined, check fabric, with smart belts and buckles. Ladies', Maids' and Youths' all in stock.

Write TO-DAY for FREE PATTERNS and Fashion Booklet.

SARTOR MANUFACTURING CO.

(DEPT. J), 53, OXFORD ROAD, MANCHESTER.

BICYCLE BARGAINS.—Write at once for clearance lists, Premiers, Humbers, Centaurs, Swifts, Triumphs, Rovers, Raglans, Court Royals, etc., grand bicycles from £8 19 6 cash (*maker's price* £15 15 0).—George King, Ltd., Great Cycle Dealer, Coventry

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'Ever-Ready' Safety Razor

EVERY morning four million men take their 'Ever-Ready" Razors out of their cases, lather up, and achieve in three minutes with "Ever-Ready" RADIO Blades what every smart man *must* have—a perfect shave.

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"EVER READY" SAFETY RAZOR CO. LTD.
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Feed the BEST; it pays over and over again. Don't be led into the false economy of buying cheap stuff. Buy 'Victoria' Poultry Food in our easily-recognized packages and ensure prolific egg-production. 'Victoria' is the pure, nourishing, digestible feed that brings RESULTS by inducing perfect health.

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FREE PRACTICAL TEST SAMPLE

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on Dog and Poultry matters. All your queries answered. Give full details of feeds used, etc.

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TAKE NO RISKS—Remember our FREE fire insurance offer on page 16.

JOHN BULL

Come the three corners of the world in arms,
And we shall shock them.

The Paper on which the Sun Never Sets.

Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant:
Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.

Naught shall make us rue,
If Britain to itself do rest but true.

Vol. XXV. No. 672. Week ending Saturday, April 19th, 1919. Twopence.

"THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL."

[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.]

Strike Ballots.

We wonder whether Labour leaders would consent to taking strike decisions by secret ballot. The present system of voting is a fraud and a farce.

The *Cologne Post*.

We have received a copy of the first number of this new paper, "published by the Army of the Rhine." It is quite a good production, but why, oh why, those German advertisements?

Sponsors for Aliens.

The Home Secretary says it is "not the practice" to give the names of the British-born subjects who stand as sponsors in naturalisation cases." Well, the practice will have to be altered.

"Cheese It."

There is scarcely any cheese to be had, but we are assured that the huge cases shown in a picture in the *Daily Mirror*, last week, of a British food ship being unloaded in Germany, represented New Zealand cheese. What says Mr. Roberts?

Interesting Figures.

During the war the British armies captured 189,000 prisoners and nearly 3,000 guns; the French, 139,000 prisoners and nearly 2,000 guns—and the American, 43,000 prisoners and 1,400 guns; whilst little Belgium accounted for 14,500 prisoners and nearly 500 guns.

The Loss of the *Hampshire*.

Official explanations are often amazing. In the case of the Inquiry into the loss of the *Hampshire*, the Admiralty declines to publish the evidence because of the "almost informal character of the proceedings" and the fact that the findings lack "any final and intrinsic value." Now we know.

"A Premium on Piety."

That is how somebody describes the rule that to make sure of your seat in the House you must be present at prayers. That is practical Christianity. Wasn't it George Jacob Holyoake, by the way, who, when asked whether he believed in the usefulness of piety, replied that he preferred the piety of usefulness?

Insulting Tommy.

We have had submitted to us a specimen of a pocket-case, presented to every soldier on demobilisation in France. It is covered with hymns and texts, and accompanying it is a small metal token, with the sign of the Cross and a figure of Britannia—*and the inscription, "Made in Germany."* What do you think of it?

Old Age Pensions.

If these are to be of any real assistance in keeping old people out of the workhouse, they must be considerably increased at once.

Yet Another Medal.

"Is there to be any official decoration for anti-aircraft men?" we are asked. We must have notice of that question!

"Vote for Vance."

That is what we told the St. Pancras voters to do at the Guardians' election—and the blind lady has topped the poll. "If you see it——"

Chertsey Cheer.

On the other hand, at Chertsey, Mr. Bartholomew, who has persistently opposed the supplying of the Workhouse inmates with a glass of Christmas beer, has gone down before a local publican, who has beaten him by three to one. Lucky inmates!

"Beware of the Greeks"!

We all remember the old adage to "beware of the Greeks when they bring you presents"—which originated with an incident at the siege of Troy. Well, what shall we say when the *Daily Herald* pays us compliments?

Aliens on Juries.

One of the reasons why, before these lines are read, we shall have moved the rejection of the Government's Aliens Bill, is that it contains no provision for keeping foreigners off "British" juries. We had a very rude experience ourselves once, when the foreman admitted to us afterwards that he scarcely understood a word of English.

Less Whisky.

People are wondering why, despite the recent increase of 25 per cent. in the authorised allowance from bond, there is less whisky than ever about. The answer is that, by direction of the Treasury, supplies are being held up till after the Budget. Whisky, beer, and income-tax are still the Chancellor's happy hunting ground.

Mrs. Snowden.

Our sympathies go out to Mr. Snowden, who told a recent meeting in Blackburn that he had "no idea" where Mrs. Snowden was; that the last he heard of her was that "she was expecting to be going to Austria and Hungary in connection with the Swiss Red Cross"—for which all honour to her—but that "she might be swept up by the Bolshevist revolution." May our political antipathies never dull our human sympathies.

More O.B.E.s Wanted!

We have received an appeal on behalf of those officers who, when unfitted for active service, were sent to America on propaganda work. They want the O.B.E. There are plenty in stock!

The Honours List.

There are many anxious individuals working for their "New Year" honours, and cursing a certain famous Field-Marshal, whose firm stand for his officers, before himself, is blocking the way.

An Army Scandal.

The only thing we have to say at the moment about that Lambeth shooting case is, that it is a damnable insult to the whole Army that military prisoners should in any case be marched, handcuffed, through the streets.

The Soldiers' Vote.

At last we have succeeded in extracting the truth. Out of three million soldiers on the Register at the General Election, only 800,000 voted. In other words, only about a fourth of them took part in the Election. We comment elsewhere.

That 9d. for 4d.

We are told that up to the present the cost of National Health Insurance has been 105 millions, towards which employers and employed have contributed 65 millions. How much of the 105 millions has gone in salaries and other expenses?

Breaking the News.

It was a very shrewd move on the part of Mr. Churchill to attend the Aldwych Club luncheon, and warn us that no country will get what it expected as the result of the Peace Conference, although for the life of us we cannot quite appreciate his further observation, that perhaps no country deserves to.

Lord Milner.

So Lord Milner is true British, after all. It appears that his grandfather was a "Lancasheer mon," and that, for some reason or other over which his Lordship obviously had no control, his dad settled down in Hunland and married a German fraulein—a little matter, however, which Lord Milner forgot to mention.

A Memo. for the Premier.

When Mr. Lloyd George makes his statement in the House of Commons, will he keep in mind this declaration of Sir Eric Geddes in December, on, as he assured us, the fullest authority of the Government: "If I am returned, Germany is going to pay restitution, reparation and indemnity. . . . I would strip her as she has stripped Belgium." Good Geddes!

The Aims and Objects of Education.

First Pinnock, and now Horne, are taken back by the Enfield Education Committee as teachers. They are both "Conchies." And they are to teach the children of soldiers and sailors to be worthy citizens! They are to be paid the salaries they would be getting if they had given continuous service to the Council. In justice to some of the members of the Committee it must be said that only by the casting vote of the Chairman, Mr. Gibberd, did they approve the dirty deed.

Justice and Generosity.

Many of the *Titanic* widows who have written thanking us for our remarks on the meagreness of their pensions ask why the Committee still deduct from such pensions a sum representing 4 per cent. of all private moneys, insurance allowances and weekly compensation paid by the White Star Line. Much of this money is gone, but the widows still have to pay. Is it fair? Is it legal? As for the *Daily Mail* Fund, we understand it was handed over to the Mansion House Fund. So the Trustees have the lot.

The Education Tyranny.

In some instances the prosecution of parents for the irregular school attendance of their children amounts to downright persecution. At Brentwood, the wife of a soldier was recently fined £1 15s., on four summonses issued simultaneously in respect of her two children, who had been kept home owing to the mother's illness; and, a few weeks later, another 16s., in respect of a little girl who was suffering from eczema on the face and head. What useful purpose is served by such wanton oppression?

Old Crocks for New.

Since our recent articles on the horse-doctoring gangs now in the midst, we have noticed a number of cases of prosecutions at what we may call the wrong end; that is to say, discharged soldiers up and down the country who have bought horses and ponies guaranteed fit for work have been charged with working them while unfit. The police should get busy on the fakers who obtain money by false pretences. In most cases the discharged soldiers who are victimised know no more about a horse than about a hippopotamus.

"On Good Authority."

"I have it on good authority," is the specific warning of a Woking reader, "that the retail coal merchants are about to approach the Coal Controller with the view of getting the present system extended for a period of two years. They should be fought tooth and nail"; and the reason he gives for the fight is, that the public are getting filthy coal because the merchants by mixing are able to squeeze out of the consumer, with the consent of the alleged Controller, the highest price for the worst as for the best. Guilty, or Not Guilty?

Ignoring the Exchange.

A clerk, seeking a berth, was told at the Aldgate Labour Exchange that there were no vacancies. Yet that same day's newspaper contained an advertisement by the local Board of Guardians, Bethnal Green, stating that a clerk was wanted by them, salary £120 a year. It is not to be wondered at if private employers ignore the Exchanges when a public body shows so bad a lead. Those Guardians, needing a clerk for book-keeping and accountancy, at a road-sweeper's wage, deserve a rap from the Local Government Board for wasting money and for flouting the official bureau.

Widows' Income Tax.

The Commission now inquiring into Income Tax anomalies will surely not turn a deaf ear to the claims of widows. We mean, particularly, the old ladies living on just a little bit, saved by the husband gone before, who toiled to put that bit by for her declining years, and who paid tax on it while saving it. When the amount is comparatively small, the widow cannot fairly be denied relief from the Tax.

To Seamstresses.

Perhaps you observed that the late noble lord who was head of the Coats's cotton business left a fortune of £4,642,263? Also that the firm's profits amount to millions in a year, and that it pays dividends of 30 per cent. upon an enormous capital. If you will now consider what a reel of cotton used to cost you, and the price you are bled for now, you may begin to understand those foregoing stupendous figures.

Slow Folk.

An old soldier, with over twenty years' service to his credit, wants to start a green-grocery business. He has got shop and fittings, and there is nothing to stop him, except the National Service gentlemen at the Hotel Windsor. They, though sitting on his petition for a month, have not yet hatched out a Permit. Meanwhile he is paying out as rent the money reserved for stock. Is there a time limit to procrastination at the Hotel Windsor?

The Fateful Two Minutes.

A Durham soldier who lost his leg at Arras has seven children; for six of them he receives a pension; with the seventh, he had no luck. "When I wrote about allowance for that one," he says, "I got a form to tell me the child was born more than nine months after my discharge, which I got on the 2nd of January, 1918, the child being born on the 3rd October, 1918—to be explicit, *two minutes* past midnight of 2nd October." Wonder if that was a Friday, by any chance?

The Brothers Wood-n't.

Ramsgate is to have inflicted upon it a visit from those very pacific gospel-gabblers, the Brothers Wood. The Vicar of Christ Church welcomes unctuously the "Young Life Campaign" of these "two young Irish Evangelists, Messrs. Fredk. and Arthur Wood," and beseeches the Ramsgate youths and maids to form a choir for them. Surely the town has suffered enough without having the Woods show their faces in it—young fellows who begged for exemption because they are so good and pious. As for their Irish birth, it is the fact that Fred used to be billed as Fritz.

Law and the Poor.

We have a letter from a London woman who complains that nearly four years have elapsed since she applied to the proper authorities under the Poor Persons Regulations, for leave to institute divorce proceedings against her husband, by whom she has been practically deserted for 14 years. The official excuse for this cruel delay is that the husband's whereabouts are unknown, the burden of tracing him being left to the unhappy wife, who has no means to undertake the task. When our Bill for the provision of a "Public Defender" comes along, we must see that no loopholes of this sort are left for robbing its beneficiaries of their rights.

The Coastguard.

Just lately, florid advertisements have appeared, offering varied inducements to men to join the Coastguard service. No mention was made of the fact that Chief Petty Officers, otherwise Station Officers, are being compulsorily retired, at the age of 55, on the old pension scale of 18s. to £1 a week. These men, of long service, should at least be retained until the new pension rates are settled. To shelve them now is cruel.

Cloth for Cutting.

There must be, stored away, millions of yards of khaki and blue cloth, serge, and flannel, which will never now be used for uniforms. If this were re-dyed and at once made up, every demobilised man might have a suit of clothes, and there would still be enough to ease the price for civilians. There is one gigantic stock of this cloth at Chilwell, Nottingham, stored none too securely. And there, we suppose, it will remain, undisturbed, unheeded, until sold off for a song to a contractor.

The Gentle Hun.

With the whole prison to themselves, the 18 Huns still interned in Reading Gaol must be terribly exposed to draughts. It would seem, however, that they are well looked after, for we understand that, apart from the Governor, the staff comprises more than 30 officials. A local reader who has a "thrifty mind," wonders why the interned are not packed off to Hunland and the gaol closed. But perhaps the dear creatures have declined to leave.

Helping His End.

This is told us by a medical man. One of his patients, a gardener, 62, suffered from acute heart disease. He was ordered some spirits in milk every morning before work. Recently he asked for, and was supplied with, a certificate that he needed brandy for medicinal purposes. But his needs were not met; no inn in the town could supply him. For ten days he was without stimulant, and then he dropped dead. We offer that plain, unvarnished story for the consideration of the Liquor Control Board.

A Chance for "Tommy."

We are indebted to Colonel Lord Kitchener of Khartoum for a memorandum on the prospects of soldier settlement in British East Africa, a subject in which the heir of our great War Minister is keenly interested. Perhaps a single extract will suffice. "As native labour has to be employed and paid for, a capital of at least £500 for single and £1,000 for married men is essential; even with this amount, a soldier must be prepared to live hard, work hard, and abstain from drink for some years." It's as well to know beforehand, anyway.

"Druidical Methods."

When printing our recent observations under the above heading we should have made it clear that our remarks were directed to the Druids Approved Friendly Society, No. 135, Greenheys, Manchester, and not to the Ancient Order of Druids, which is not a friendly or benefit society, but a benevolent and social institution from which all other Druidical Societies have sprung, although they are all now entirely separate institutions. We should be sorry by implication to cast any reflection upon the "Ancient Order"—for which reason we print this explanation.

Through Want of Thought.

The Regent Publishing Co.—an all-British firm—should know better than to issue a comic postcard showing a baby stealing jam, and bearing the title: "Reported Missing." How must women who have had that message about their husbands, sons or brothers, feel when they see that callous card? Scrap it!

A Common Case.

From Bromsgrove we have this account: "A young soldier in Germany wrote home to his parents asking for a parcel of music. The parents at once sent off the parcel, properly addressed to the boy. Unfortunately the postage paid was ½d. short, although told here it was all right. However, the authorities in London held up the parcel, and wrote to Germany asking the boy for address of the sender. When he forwarded the address, the Post Office returned the parcel to his parents here." What a long way some of these public Departments do go to recover a ha'penny and how little they worry about squandering millions!

Alien Hair Cuts.

That England is still regarded abroad as a lovely country to live in is proved by the watchful eye Continental foreigners keep on the "wanted" advertisements in British papers. The other morning a Kingsland Road hairdresser had the time of his life when the postman handed him a letter addressed "Sir W. White." For one brief moment of glorious anticipation he rejoiced that the King had at last recognised his talents. Alas, it was only a Dutchman's reply to his advertisement for an operator; one Van Hecke, of Amsterdam, yearned for the job. In disgust the hairdresser cast the screed upon the flames and there was nothing doing for the Dutchman—not in that shop.

The Miners' Scrub.

Talking of coal reminds us that a Wrexham architect thinks that a great number of colliers and others are not fit to occupy a decent or a new house. "There should be a strictly enforced set of rules for every tenant entering a house, making him responsible for all damage; not to chop wood, break coal or mend picks on tiled floors, or repair broken windows with brown paper; also a periodical examination by inspectors, women preferred, to see that the houses are kept in a fit state for children to live in." Apropos of a certain design of a house with an iron staircase and iron doors, he says the designer's idea "was no doubt that the house could be cleaned with the hose, and the people in it if necessary." Wrexham being in a mining district, it looks as if our correspondent could easily get into a row.

The Lady Bagman.

Perhaps some commercial traveller of the sex which is ours will kindly explain to a commercial traveller of the sex which isn't, why it is that at almost every hotel where she seeks bed and breakfast the house is full. Is it that the male bagman fears the growing competition of the female bagman, or that the commercial room, sacred to so many old-time rites and customs, is really no place for ladies?

P.L.A. Police.

There's a lot of grumbling among the Port of London Authority's police. "Their overcoats, about six years the worse for wear, are a disgrace"; "returned men are wearing their own civvies, and no allowance is made for them"; "all the best jobs and softest duty go to privileged men, some of whom never knew there was a war on and now don't know it is over"; "when will they do something so that we can get promotion according to ability?" and so forth. Notice is hereby given that a stitch in time saves nine.

Postmen's Knock.

Before war there were hundreds of auxiliary postmen, paid 13s. 9d. a week for 4½ hours' work daily, filling in the rest of the time by running their own businesses. During the war they were asked to work full time, and most did so, relinquishing other employment. They are now put back on auxiliary terms, salary 27s., on which amount it is a puzzle to feed, clothe, and house self and family. There is work the P.O. could give these men to make up full time, and it is their due for throwing up their own business affairs to serve the P.O. and the public.

The Light Fantastic.

Frivolous flappers, knuts, and jazzers on the staff at the Bermondsey Food Office ran a Fancy Dress Dance on behalf of their own social club. Now, if they wish to be social and dance at their own expense, we should cordially approve. But they distributed tickets for sale, and wrote asking for return of unsold tickets and desiring cash for sales. And they wrote on official printed stationery, in official envelopes "On His Majesty's Service"—postage "Official Paid." Still more, they enclosed O.H.M.S. envelopes, postage officially paid, for cash and tickets to be sent in. This is wanton abuse of Government stationery, and time, and robbery of the taxpayer.

Watch this figure GROW!

The Number of Claims already Paid under our Free Fire Insurance is: 47

For Registration Forms see page 16.

What Do You Call?

The frequency with which "nine" is mistaken for "five," and *vice versa*, by the "Hello Girl," causes a correspondent to suggest that the Postmaster-General do authorise the use of the word "nap" in place of "five" when giving numbers on the 'phone. The idea is not a bad one, but would be sure to meet with bitter opposition from the kill-joy cranks, on the score that the use of such a word would be likely to encourage gambling.

Preying on Pensioners.

An ex-Service man is the last one would expect to exploit the pensioner, but the unexpected happens in the case of Capt. R. Holroyd Smyth, of Ballynatray, Youghal, Co. Cork, who lately advertised for a "Pensioner, Army or Navy, able to row boat." On enquiry, the work was stated to consist of "drifting logs with boat on tide from where cut up river about a mile to saw mill . . . sometimes helping in saw mill . . . and to be generally useful." In exchange the gallant captain offered 12s. a week, a two-room house, a pint of milk daily, "some potatoes," an firewood. Any takers?

Unhappy Returns.

Recently, a Cheetham Hill man travelled from Manchester to Atherton, booking a return ticket. Eventually finding there was not a train back to Manchester for two hours, he did not use the return half. This he sent to the L. & Y. Co., explaining the circumstances, and asking for the appropriate refund. In due course, he received a form stating that if he called on the chief booking clerk at Victoria (Manchester), he would receive 3½d., 1s. having been deducted from the fare paid "to cover expenses and postage." How is the expense of 1s. incurred? he wants to know. Prime cost of cheek and wear and tear of booking-clerk in handing out 3½d.?

Unrequited Talent.

Now that we are to have a Royal Commission on Inventions, there should soon be an end of the difficulties which so many inventors have encountered in securing fair recognition from the War Departments. One of the latest cases to be brought to our notice is that of a peculiar blade or wing for steadying flying machines, called after the inventor the "Phillip's Entry," in respect of which, apparently, the Government have declined to pay any royalty on the ground that the original patents have lapsed. In view of the importance of encouraging inventive genius, it is to be hoped that all such claims will be settled on broad grounds of equity, rather than by a too rigid adherence to the bare letter of the law.

"JOHN BULL'S" WEEKLY CINEMA.

Wilson, parading in his "League" demand, like a spoilt child needs a correcting hand.

If Lloyd George hovered on the pro-Hun border, That wired "reminder" soon called him to order.

The Russian Bolshies are not those that anger us, But those bad British, who are far more dangerous.

Well may the Allied soldiers raise this query—The Big Four's indecision makes them weary.

Candid Communications.——

This space is devoted to Open Letters to Celebrities, Notorieties and occasionally Nonentities.

To Sir Arthur K. Yapp, Central Y.M.C.A.

DEAR SIR ARTHUR,—I am glad to see that the charges brought by the Bishop of Swansea against the financial administration of the Y.M.C.A. are to be investigated. There have been many criticisms by me of your methods, and, in spite of all attempts to close my mouth, I have continued to call in question the whole system on which the Y.M.C.A. has been conducted for war purposes. I welcome the aid of the Bishop and await the result of the inquiry with unusual interest. JOHN BULL.

To the Rt. Hon. Lord Mostyn.

DEAR LORD MOSTYN,—I see that an old man renting a farm on the Mostyn estate was recently prosecuted by your Agent for stealing timber from a neighbouring covert, and although it was stated that the poor old fellow had used the wood simply to repair gates on the farm, the case was pressed to a conclusion, and the defendant fined £2. From the evidence it appears that the old man had rented under your Lordship's family for 46 years, having always been a good tenant. In these circumstances, a word of caution would have been sufficient. That Agent needs a quiet reprimand. JOHN BULL.

To the Rt. Hon. Sir Robert Horne, M.P., Labour Minister.

DEAR SIR ROBERT,—I hear of an old service man who was sent to the G.P.O. about a job as temporary sorter. Arriving, it was demanded that he should sign a form stating he was fully aware his services might be discontinued without notice, and that he had no claim to an appointment and was not entitled to promotion, to compensation for loss of office, or to pension. Because he declined this situation under such one-sided, arbitrary conditions, he was deprived of his unemployment allowance. I know the Labour Department is trying to wriggle out of a tight and costly corner, but for goodness' sake let it wriggle out with some affectation of fairness and decency. JOHN BULL.

To the Director-General, Army Clothing Department.

DEAR DIRECTOR,—What an unholy muddle and mess you are in! A soldier, on demobilisation, is offered a suit or money in lieu. I have wads of letters telling us that the suits one arrival are often found to be large enough only for the men's youngsters. Other complaints are that, although measurements for the "duds" were taken three months ago, the things have not turned up yet. In the meantime, the discharged soldier who has no civilian clothing at home must look for work in khaki—which is not very promising. Do get a move on! JOHN BULL.

To Carl Gustaf E. Schelin, 93, Hall Lane, Armley.

SIR SCORCHER,—When driving your motor-cycle at 25 miles an hour, a policeman signalled you to stop, but you did not do so, explaining, in a funny way of your own, that the signal was not "proper." Next time, perhaps the police will signal in some rag-time style agreeable to your taste, but, meanwhile, I cannot understand why the Magistrate failed to fine you, "because your licence would be endorsed if he did." He let you put 30s. in the poor box, instead, and his polite consideration for your feelings is more than a puzzle to me. JOHN BULL.

To His Worship the Mayor, Brighouse, Yorkshire.

WORSHIPFUL SIR,—You recently presented Military Medals to two lads at a meeting of the Town Council. The business appears to have occupied the best part of a minute. Instead of pinning the medals on the breasts of the gallant soldiers, you, with a few words of conventional commendation, handed each man his well-earned decoration much in the same way as the proprietor of the little general store hands his customer a tablet of soap. Then the men "retired to the background, unaccompanied by the faintest expression of applause or approval," and the business of the Council was immediately proceeded with. The newspaper report adds, "They do things better at Elland." Yes, and everywhere else, I hope. JOHN BULL.

To the Chief Constable, Scarborough.

DEAR "C. C.,"—Permit me to offer you a word of congratulation on your action in the case of Paul Schafer, a German, who has turned up in your town, a prohibited area, "without the permission of the Chief Constable and the Registration Officer." I notice that Schafer pleaded he had served in the British Navy and had a son with the First Expeditionary Force; but I agree with you it does not entitle him to make his happy home in Scarborough. He should try Bradford—where many residents would give him a hearty welcome. JOHN BULL.

To Sir Geo. Elliott, M.P., Mayor of Islington.

DEAR SIR GEORGE,—There is in your Borough an old soldier, hero of four campaigns, who is blessed with several children. One of them, critically ill, was ordered to hospital instantly, and the police were good enough to telephone for an ambulance. The reply, from some of your officials, was that nothing could be done for the boy, so dad had to scrape up money for a taxi and risk the journey in that. If there is no public ambulance in Islington, I shall be obliged to alter my opinion of the Borough. Up to now it has been a good one. JOHN BULL.

To Miss S. A. Fletcher, Fletcher's Farm, Evenlode, Worcester.

DEAR MADAM,—I do not know the name of the chief Government hay gatherer down your way, but he may consider himself badly bruised. In the most arbitrary, senseless, and thoughtless way the gang of balers have taken all the hay you have, so I hear; taken it all except a few rakings for your six cows and their six calves, and three young heifers, to say nothing of a small flock of sheep and the pony; taken it and left it to rot outside Adlestrop station, and there it seems likely to stay for lack of trucks to take it away. Meanwhile your cows starve, though the Government screams for pure milk and bounteous beef and things to make this lovely land fit for heroes to live in! JOHN BULL.

THE NIGGER-DRIVER.

CRUEL BULLY GETS OFF WITH A FINE.

The farmer is a well-to-do man, in a big way—he has four large farms of 1,000 acres. The boy's parents are poor. The farmer weighs about 21 stone. The boy—described as "a 14-year-old labourer"!—weighs not much more than 5 stone. The big brute—George Hollingworth, of Saxonwell Farm, Long Bennington, thrashed the boy—Albert Cook—unmercifully with a horse-whip, cutting his head, making his eye bleed, and leaving him black and blue from head to foot. Why? Because "the boy refused to obey an order and the defendant lost his temper." And this is in free England, in the twentieth century. Did the defendant urge this defence himself? Oh, no! He took to his bed with pneumonia as soon as he got the summons, and only recovered enough to get up again three days later, as soon as the case was over. The quickness of his recovery may be explained by the fact that the merciful Chairman of the Grantham Bench, Sir John Thorold, instead of sending the cruel bully to prison with hard labour, *fined him* £5, *including costs*. Sir John said it was "their duty to take care of little boys, and see that they were not abused when they went to work for other people." If Hollingworth had thrashed *your* son like that, Sir John, would you have lapped your butter-milk and let him off with a fine? It is time that magistrates, if they cannot justify their leniency—equally with their abominable severity where the poor and unprotected are concerned—were dismissed from the positions they abuse. What says the new Lord Chancellor?

ROBBED OF HIS STRIPES.

SOLDIER PENALISED THROUGH MILITARY MUDDLE.

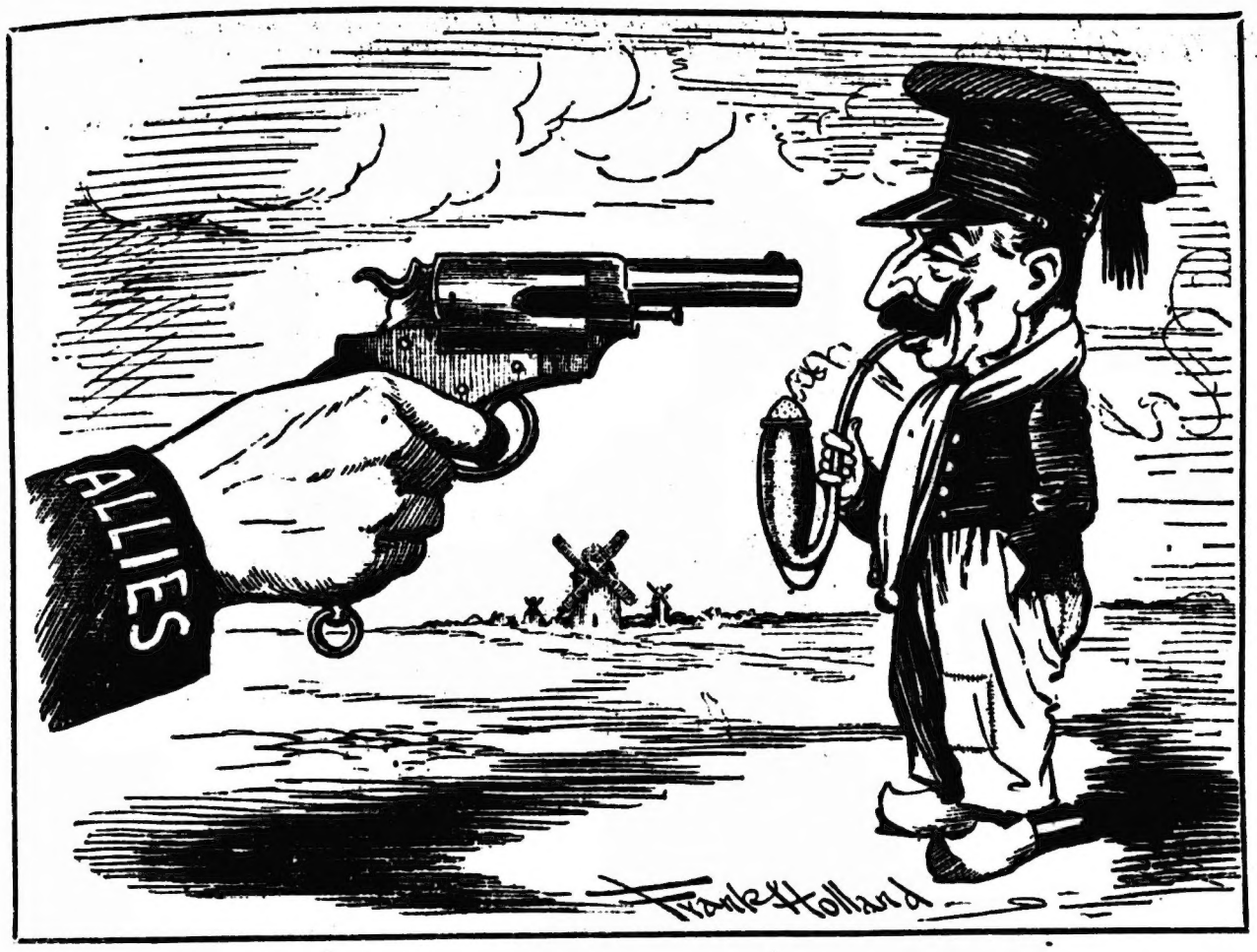
Writing from Folkestone, an ex-soldier explains that in February, 1916, whilst serving with the East Kent Regiment, he was promoted to the rank of Corporal, but on his subsequent transfer to the County of London Regiment for service in France he received what has been called "an Irishman's rise." Owing to a surplus in the non-commissioned ranks he was ordered to revert to the grade of private. So far our friend's experience was by no means exceptional, but the sequel is interesting as an example of War Office procedure. Feeling aggrieved at his loss of rank and pay, the soldier, as soon as he was discharged, appealed direct to the War Office, inviting a proper explanation. The reply was an amazing example of official ineptitude. First of all it was stated that the original promotion was "irregular." This was discouraging, but there was still room for hope, for, as the War Office apologist went on to state, the irregular promotion had been "confirmed by the competent authority," and therefore "it must stand." This being so, the subsequent order for the soldier's reversion to the rank of private was not merely irregular, but "illegal." At this point the quondam corporal may well have anticipated judgment in his favour, but alas! a final disappointment was in store for him. Although he had been illegally robbed of his stripes, having really and truly been a corporal all the time, he was only entitled, so the War Office finally informed him, to the pay of a private from the date of his arrival in France until the moment of his discharge. Grossly unfair; but it's the way of Whitehall.

CHEATING THE AGED.

SHARP PRACTICE AND A VANISHED PENSION.

A painful case of injustice in regard to an Old Age Pension claim is reported from Blackridge, West Lothian. It appears that a retired pit-engineman, Mr. George Mitchell, had for some time past been in receipt of a pension, and in May last his wife, having reached the age of 70, became entitled to a similar boon. At that time the old couple had one son in the Army, and another, an invalid, living at home. On making inquiries, the Pensions Officer discovered that the sick man was in receipt of a dependent's allowance of 6s. weekly from the Army, it having been proved to the satisfaction of the authorities that he had been practically supported by his brother before the war. The old mother was persuaded to have her invalid son's allowance formally transferred to herself, as housekeeper for the family. It is the practice of the Old Age Pensions Authorities in regard to married couples to halve the joint receipts as a means of determining the individual income, and the effect of adding the son's 6s. to the mother's pittance was not merely to defeat her claim, but to entail the withdrawal of her husband's pension. To complete the tale of injustice, we learn that on some miserable technicality as to the actual date when the decision of the Pensions Committee was to take effect, the old man is now faced with a demand for the repayment of £3. It is clear that, from beginning to end, this worthy old couple have been grossly victimised, and we are not at all satisfied that the local Pensions Officer made sufficient effort to represent the case to his Committee in a proper light.

AN "EMPTY" THREAT.



THE MAN BEHIND THE GUN: "Don't be alarmed, William, IT ISN'T LOADED!"

PROOF POSITIVE.

THE CASE AGAINST SIR SAM HUGHES.

As we expected, we were perfectly correct in offering a direct denial to that speech of Sir Sam Hughes, made in Canada. He said, it will be remembered, that Canadians won the battle of St. Julien armed with the Ross rifle, and that the Yorks and Durhams threw away their Lee-Enfields and ran. We said plainly in a "Candid Communication" that we did not believe a word of it, and that Sir Sam had been deceived. Very many letters reach us in ample confirmation from men who were at the battle, both Canadians and British. And in this connection we may state that Sir Sam was challenged on the spot by a Canadian non-com. officer who had fought at St. Julien. He met Sir Sam's charges with a cry of "No, sir!" But he was not listened to. Our own men, now home, tell us that the Canadians at St. Julien threw away their Ross rifles because the bolt jammed, and fought on with Lee-Enfields picked up on the field. The Yorks and Durhams had relieved the Canadians when the gigantic attack commenced. First came gas, then attacks on two flanks by Prussian Guards and Uhlans, and even an attack from the rear. The Canadians, though worn-out, came back to assist. Yorks and Durhams, never turning tail, held the position against odds, and held it until dispatched to the Somme. Here, also, is proof of our view from a Canadian sergeant who took part in that fight:—"I was at St. Julien, armed with the Ross rifle. The rotten bolt stuck at the second shot, and it took a blow with my trenching tool to release it. I threw the rifle away, and picked up a Lee-Enfield, taken from a dead Imperialist. We all did the same, and eventually the Ross was discarded as useless, and the Lee issued to all Canadians—and Sam knows it!" Our case could not be made clearer, and from Sir Sam Hughes an apology and withdrawal are quite manifestly due. In Canada, Sir Sam "cuts no ice," but over here his position may be misunderstood.

THE HOUSING TRAGEDY.

MYSTERIOUS EVICTION OF A SOLDIER'S FAMILY.

There is great indignation in the borough of Burton-on-Trent at the treatment accorded to the wife and dependents of Mr. Alan Passam, a well-known local footballer, who, after four years' active service, is still detained in France. For some obscure reason, the true facts of the case have been skilfully disguised in the local Press. As we understand the position, Passam's wife and three small children, with the grandfather, aged 74, lived, until quite recently, in a cottage rented from a Mrs. Harriman of Stapenhill, the owner of several small houses in the neighbourhood. However, some little while ago, the Passams were served with notice to quit, and in spite of the desperate shortage of housing accommodation in the Burton district, the matter was carried to the length of ejectment proceedings before the local magistrates, and the family compelled to seek refuge in a miserable and unwholesome four-roomed tenement in another part of the town. As we say, the local newspaper reports of the case are unsatisfying, and it certainly seems a pity that Mrs. Harriman should have been given no opportunity of publicly explaining her action. There is, we believe, a suggestion that Mrs. Passam's seven year old boy had been guilty of some damage to the premises, but this trumpery pretext can hardly have appealed to the Magistrates as a sufficient reason for turning a soldier's wife and family into the streets. The treatment of the Passams does not stand alone, and it is impossible to take the landlady's contention seriously, when it is recalled that in one instance the young ruffian accused of damaging her bricks and mortar had not yet celebrated his second birthday! In more than one instance the wives and families of serving soldiers have been the victims of Mrs. Harriman's curious dealings with her property, and while we are slow to think the worst of a lady, it must be admitted that the affair of the Passams leaves a nasty taste in the mouth, and calls for a fuller explanation than has yet been offered.

INDEFENSIBLE DELAY.

HOTEL PROPRIETOR'S HARDSHIP.

In April, 1918, the Admiralty commandeered a small commercial hotel in Portsmouth for the purpose of housing a few W.R.N.S. The proprietor had bought the place in 1915, sinking all his small savings in the investment, and by means of hard work had succeeded in getting together a useful connection. Up to the present he has not received a penny of compensation. As his income ceased immediately the Admiralty "took over," and as he had a wife and six young children to provide for, he was reduced to the necessity of obtaining work in the Dockyard as an ordinary labourer, and compelled to rent rooms at the rate of £35 a year in not by any means the most salubrious quarter of Portsmouth. The local District Valuer has had all the facts of the case before him for months, the Losses Commission have been "put wise" about it, and the Accountant-General has curtly acknowledged receipt of the claim for compensation. And there the matter seems likely to end; and the evicted hotel-keeper will in all probability have to end his days as a dockyard labourer for the simple reason that someone or other somewhere or other is inextricably entangled in red tape!

THE WICKEDNESS—OF A BABY!

STRANGE DOINGS IN MALMESBURY WORKHOUSE.

We can understand why some of the Malmesbury Guardians didn't want the resignation of two of the nurses discussed in the Press. To lock up a baby boy of four in a very dark room with his hands tied behind his back on a cold March day for more than an hour is a monstrous thing. And it appears that this was not the first time by many that the child was locked up there. The excuse is that the boy was a wicked child, who swears something dreadful, and tears his bedclothes. If he has been long in the home, whose fault is that? And if the nurses can correct the faults of babies only in this barbarous way, what right have they to look after babies at all? The two nurses who resigned said that the Matron ordered them to do this shocking thing. That is disputed; but the facts should be discovered. And who ordered the baby's punishment on former occasions? A Guardian said that discussion in the Press had caused other nurses to leave the institution. What does that mean? We think there is a case for an inquiry into the running of the Malmesbury Union.

ALL PLAY AND NO WORK.

QUEER TREATMENT OF A WILLING LAD.

A London lad, not quite 16, relates a quaint story of work, out-of-work, and that happy-go-lucky donation pay. The boy, a fretsaw worker, laboured for 14 months on aeroplanes. When the factory closed down, he received one day's out-of-work pay, and then, having bought his tools, went to a well known furniture firm at Camden Town, ostensibly to learn cabinet-making, getting 12s. a week, but he learned nothing, for he was made the errand-boy of the establishment. So he gave notice and left. The Exchange then sent him to a school, to be taught his trade, but he says that he was only learning how to play. He received notice to appear before the Referee, with reference to his donation. He explained he had left his job because it was only running errands, and the Chairman gravely informed him that running errands was the way to learn the names of things. The same worthy also thought that boys were taught a trade while at school, and then, having unburdened its stock of wisdom, the Court of Referees announced that the lad was disqualified from receiving any out-of-work pay. From which it would almost appear that he was punished pecuniarily because he wanted to learn and to work instead of rusting in idleness

RE-OPEN THAT INQUEST!

MORE MYSTERY AT THE CHALFONT EPILEPTIC COLONY.

IN spite of the silence of the officials at the Chalfont Colony of the National Society for Epileptics, we are determined to expose to the full the attempt to hush up the death of Frederick Charles Kemp. If necessary, the verdict at the inquest, at which important evidence was withheld, must be quashed and a fresh investigation held. The facts, as already stated, leave little room for doubt. Kemp, who had been an inmate of the Chalfont Colony from the age of 14 until his death in his 20th year, had been grossly ill-treated by an attendant named Harry Perkins, and, in spite of the medical evidence of Dr. Brooks, who was not present at the death, there is good ground for believing that Kemp, if he did succumb in a fit, really died as the result of ill-treatment which induced the fit. In other words, the patient was violently thrown from his bed by Perkins, the attendant, who absconded after the fatality, and who was only available as a witness at the second hearing.

But for the present, chief concern is with the conduct of those responsible for the administration of the Chalfont Colony, and therefore responsible for that lack of discipline and restraint which, we believe it can be shown, resulted in the violent death of this unhappy patient. We have declared that those in control at the Chalfont Colony made endeavour to hush up the tragedy. We repeat that charge, and await any attempt at refutation. We have the word of the mother of the dead man that until she read the story in JOHN BULL she was unaware of the real facts; she had been deliberately kept in ignorance of them. Her first intimation of what had happened was a telegram from the matron—"Regret to say Fred died in fit this morning," and after her visit to the Colony, where she saw the Matron and the Secretary, she received the following letter, in which it will be noted Mr. Penn Gaskell tries to draw some distinction between a Coroner's inquest and an inquiry by a Coroner. After a formal expression of regret at the death of her son, Gaskell continues:—

> I should mention that for the reasons of which I spoke to you on Saturday, the Coroner thought it would be desirable to hold an inquiry, which he accordingly did yesterday afternoon at 3 o'clock. It was not an inquest with a jury, but an inquiry by the Coroner without a jury. After hearing the available evidence the Coroner thought it desirable to adjourn the matter for a week in the hope that the attendant may then be present, but this will of course not necessitate any postponement of the funeral, which will, I understand, be able to take place as arranged. I should mention that the medical evidence given at the inquiry was to the effect that death was attributable purely to natural causes.

It will be noted that Mr. Gaskell is careful to make no reference to the charge which was raised and practically ignored at the inquest that Perkins used violence to the dead man, and that he tries to draw some distinction between an inquest and an inquiry. Why? Listen to the story of Kemp's sister, who accompanied her mother to the Colony the day after the death: "We saw the nurse in charge, very deaf, who seemed intensely agitated and somewhat incoherent. However she exclaimed, 'He had three fits, one after the other straight off, Mrs. Kemp.'" Not a word to that effect, we may remark, was stated at the inquest. Mrs. and Miss Kemp then saw Mr. Gaskell (the Secretary) and Miss Parry (the Matron). Gaskell said that "One or two of the patients had told him that my brother had been ill-treated by an attendant, and that an inquiry would be held. From this we believed that the inquiry would be by the officials, into the administration of the Home. The Matron said, 'I don't think that there is any necessity for that, but we must have it—it is just a formal thing.' Neither my mother nor myself had any idea that Mr. Gaskell or the Matron were referring to an inquest. In fact, when we asked them whether there would be an inquest, they said, 'No; just an inquiry,' their tone of voice conveying some surprise that we should think that such a course would be adopted." Now, we say that quite apart from Mr. Gaskell's queer distinction between an inquest and an inquiry, the relatives of Kemp should have had an opportunity of attending the investigation by the Coroner, and we repeat that this is just one of those cases where a jury should have been summoned. In the circumstances Mr. Penn Gaskell will hardly be surprised at having received the following letter from Mrs. Kemp:—

> I have received a great shock on reading in JOHN BULL the article on the death of my son. I had no idea he had died in such terrible circumstances, and I must say that I consider you have not treated me at all candidly. You will remember that, after telling me, when I saw you, that there would be no inquest, but merely an inquiry, you wrote me to that effect, though it now appears that a very serious inquest was held. I am very surprised that, as the next-of-kin, we were not asked to attend or indeed told anything about it. I feel sure that you will ease my mind by giving me some further information.

What further information Mr. Gaskell can or will offer it is not for us to say. But we repeat that in our opinion there has been far too much "hushing up" and mystery surrounding this case. It is for the Home Secretary now to take action. Let there be a proper inquest, with a jury, and let those witnesses who were not called at the previous inquiry state the truth as they know it.

IN THE HOUSE.

THE EDITOR'S WEEK'S WORK IN PARLIAMENT.

A VERY busy week. Dealing first with practical legislation, I reintroduced that old Bill of mine to make banks disclose and disgorge the unclaimed securities and dormant balances in their hands. It was formally read "a first time" and I hope to get the Second Reading on Friday, May 9th—failing which I shall demand Government facilities for the measure, which has the support of all sections of the House. Here are the names of the backers of the Bill—Col. Sir J. Norton Griffiths (Independent), Major Christopher Lowther (Coalition Unionist, and son of the Speaker), Mr. J. M. Hogge (Whip of the Independent Liberals), Mr. Will Crooks (the popular Labour member), Brig.-Gen. Page Croft (Chairman of the National Party), Mr. Joseph Devlin (the Nationalist leader), Sir Ernest Jones (Welsh Party), Mr. Renwick, Sir J. Butcher, K.C., Mr. Clement Edwards (National Democratic Party), and Major Lloyd Greame. I shall, of course, have to contend with the opposition of the Banking community, but I am not without hope of at last getting the Act on the Statute Book.

Another Bill which I introduced, and which has aroused considerable public interest, is one to establish the office of Public Defender. Its Second Reading has been provisionally fixed for May 23rd. The object of the measure is to create what I regard as the natural corollary of the post of Public Prosecutor. At present, poor people have no real chance of a fair trial. The Treasury pits the ablest and most experienced criminal lawyers against them, and the provisions of the Poor Prisoners' Defence Act are utterly inadequate to afford them protection. Such a reform is long overdue.

I gave notice of motion for the rejection of the Government's Aliens Bill, because, in my opinion, it is so ridiculously inadequate and clumsy in its provisions as to be quite incapable of satisfactory amendment. The old Act of 1905 is to be abolished and everything is to be left to the whim of the Home Secretary, who is empowered to deal with this great menace by the objectionable device of Orders in Council. We have had enough of that sort of thing during the war, and the time has arrived when Parliament must take the matter in hand, and insist upon the Alien peril being drastically dealt with by stern and specific enactment.

On the Second Reading of the Housing Bill, and at the special invitation of Dr. Addison, I took part in the debate, emphasising the need for mandatory as distinguished from permissive powers to abolish slumland and provide the people with decent homes to live in. One of the principal points I made was that the land to be acquired should be purchased on the basis of the valuation set up by the 1909 Budget, and that we ought not to pay inflated post-war prices; and I also brushed aside the talk about obtaining "an economic rent," at any rate for some years to come. Other points I am reserving for the Committee stage—when I hope to considerably improve the Bill. My speech was very favourably received by the House, whilst the Press was, for once, most complimentary—even the *Daily News* and the *Daily Chronicle* joining in the chorus! The *Daily Herald*, too, of all the papers in the world, spoke of "Horatio's wisdom" and of "a most excellent and eloquent speech!"

I also took part in the discussion on the Bolshevist overtures to the Peace Conference, describing them as a cunning subterfuge on the part of Lenin to obtain assistance from the Allies now that he has ruined Russia and its people are dying by thousands of starvation. I explained, too, that the whole Bolshevist Campaign is part and parcel of Germany's scheme of propaganda, and that Bolshevism stands "for every crime in the Devil's Calendar." But the point which most impressed the House, and the country, was my assertion that it is Mr. Wilson, and not either the French or British delegates, who is flirting with these "bloodthirsty cut-throats," and that unless he desisted from this sort of thing "the sooner he packed up and went back to America, the better." You see, I am no believer in Wilsonian "idealism"—which, as I have said before, is another name for Yankee bluff.

I have continued to ply Ministers with questions—mostly dealing with matters coming through our own Parliamentary Bureau and dealt with in the columns of this journal. Thus, the circumstances attending the naturalisation and denaturalisation of "the woman of Downing Street," Caroline Hanneman; the further printing of Army circulars, etc., in Germany; enemy propaganda amongst our troops; the greedy grasping by the Government of the premiums on unexpired Air Raid Insurances at the date of the Armistice; the abuse by Ministers of the system of franking their official correspondence; the withholding by the War Office of rent due for commandeered premises; the continued censorship of soldiers' letters—and a variety of other matters.

The sittings of the Courts-Martial Inquiry which I was the means of securing have commenced, under the presidency of Mr. Justice Darling, and I am very hopeful of good results. We are foregoing our Easter Holiday in order to make as much progress as possible before the Courts reassemble.

So, altogether, I hope my readers, and my constituents, will think I am doing my bit.

H. B.

FORCING THE FRONT DOOR.

HEALTH VISITOR'S IMPUDENT INVASION OF HOME.

To all women whom it may concern. When a Health Visitor or other Paul Pry comes to your door and tells you he or she wants to inspect the house, don't be beguiled into allowing admission. The Health Visitor, under whatever name or disguise, has as yet no legal right to commit burglary on your home. That may come; but we're going to fight it. Meanwhile, keep the busybodies out! We have heard of a case in Hull where a wife and mother of 25 years standing was recently informed by a Nosey Parker, who called, that it was intended to visit and inspect her and her latest baby until the child was five years old. Well, the good lady can, and we hope she will, snap her fingers at the Nosey Parker, and bolt her door. At present they are just bluffing. They have no legal powers to invade the home. And we mean to see that they never get it.

HOUSING WASTE.

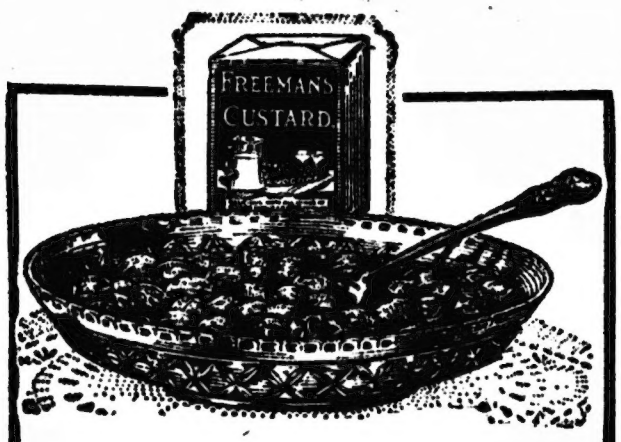
MILITARY OCCUPATION OF IDLE FLATS.

At the flats in Warner Road, Camberwell, erected by the Sam Lewis Trust, a good deal of useful housing accommodation is running to waste. Nominally the buildings, consisting of six blocks, are in the occupation of the military, but having caused the place to be inspected, we find that only one block out of the six is in actual use, the remaining five, estimated to provide accommodation for over 300 families, being so much idle space. In the existing housing shortage this arrangement is nothing short of a scandal, and indeed it is doubtful if any case at all can be made out for the continued occupation by the Army authorities, except perhaps for billeting purposes, of premises so well adapted for residential use. The Warner Road flats are known as the Camberwell Barracks, and the single block in use is apparently a Repair Depot for the A.S.C. Motor Transport, whose capacity for eating up the public resources has been demonstrated by the Slough revelations. At Camberwell there seems to be no warrant or justification for the continuance of an arrangement which aggravates the local housing shortage, causing keen resentment among the classes who have suffered most from the prevailing famine of bricks and mortar. The War Office should move in this matter without delay.

FAKING THE FISH SUPPLY.

WHY YOU CANNOT BUY SALMON, EXCEPT IN TINS.

Though the control has been removed from what is called the cheaper fish, but which seems as dear as ever, it still remains in force over the prime varieties, including salmon. Should the ordinary person have a fancy for a slice of fresh salmon or trout, he will probably have to wait till the blue moon comes before gratifying his taste. The fact is that the best fish is commandeered by the purses of the rich, the clubs, and the expensive hotels. People in a position to pay will, and do, pay any exorbitant price for their salmon and their turbot, and bribery and corruption are included in the operation of supplying the stuff. There is a legal control price, but it is exceeded quite willingly by the moneyed buyers. Sometimes they deal direct with the catchers, who may have taken out retail licences for profiteering purposes. In this way the best fish is kept from coming to the hand of the wholesale and retail fishmongers, and through them to the public. It is practically unprocurable in the markets. But hundreds of packages arrive by early morning trains at the G.N.R. and L.N.W.R. stations, their labels bearing the addresses of wealthy persons, hotels, and clubs. If the gentlemen at the Fish Control Office are unaware of what is going on, and how the Control and its prices are flouted, they must either be very bleary-eyed or very complacent.



Gooseberries and Custard.

THE palate simply yearns for gooseberries in Spring, and the young fruit is more tempting now than later in the Season.

If your mouth is watering for gooseberries ask to have them stewed and served with Freemans Custard. There is nothing more delicious than these seasonable dishes at this time of the year.

Freemans Custard is the nearest approach to Devonshire Cream, and softens the sharpness of the fruit to a nicety.

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IN THE BARBER'S CHAIR.

MISS CHRISTABEL PANKHURST.

Good mornin', ma'am—er—w'y, it's Miss Christabel, ain't it? . . . Let me see, now, I 'aven't seen you since you was a rampin', rampagin' Suffragette, 'ave I? I tell yer, the wore's worked wonders in some directions. There you was, in the old days, kickin' up 'ell's delight at meetin's an' suchlike, and puttin' the wind up Cabinet Ministers and the Old Gang in general; and now 'ere you are to-day a 'ighly respectable and patriotic elector, prospective candidate for the Abbey Division of Westminster, w'ere once on a time clucking little Suffragettes laid their—bombs! . . . Well Chrissy—if you'll excuse me fur bein' so familiar, bein' old enough to be your dad—I'm inclined to wish you luck. I've sed all along, since wimmin got the vote, thet if any o' the fair sex 'as a better right than the others to sit in the 'Ouse, it's *you*. And now you've come back from Paris and shown thet you've got President Wilson well waxed—well, I can find it in me 'eart to forgive you fur the funny little things you done in the parst. *You're ready fur anythink?* That's right. Keep your powder dry. . . . *Personal?* Now, *don't* think that, Chrissy. I wasn't referrin' to your face camouflage. Any'ow, wot promises well fur your chances is the fack thet you've got Wilson weighed up proper. You know and you ain't afraid to say thet we've had too much Mr. Bloomin' Wilson. You know 'e delayed the conclusion of the wore by comin' in too late, an' that 'e's delayed the conclusion of Peace by showin' 'is Fourteen Points w'ere they wasn't wanted. Wot would do 'im good would be Fourteen *Pints* and a good snooze; an' by the time 'e woke up and 'ad emptied 'is water-jug, the Peace Conference would 'ave settled everythink to everybody's satisfaction—thet is, everybody wot matters. I s'pose now you've got the vote you are goin' to support Constitutional methods o' reform, an' resist anarchy an' revolution? . . . Ah! Thet's good—*becos you can see wimmin 'ave more to fear from Bolshevism than men 'ave?* No doubt. But it don't seem to bring about much of a picnic for the men, neither. . . . Well, Miss Chrissy, I'm glad you're back, and glad you're on the right side. Keep on rubbin' it in to Ole Man Wilson! Goo' day! . . .

RHYMES OF THE TIMES.

[*Mr. H. Rider Haggard asks in the "Times," "Why try the Kaiser at all? . . . Why not leave this eminent personage to the judgment of his own conscience?"*]

I am absolutely staggered
By the words of Rider Haggard—
The author, you will recollect, of "She"—
Suggesting that the Kaiser,
The Atrocity Deviser,
Untried, should be permitted to go free!

For if he should go unpunished
What an argument is furnished
For the abolition of all punishment!
If we don't chastise for *great* crimes
Lesser sinners will have great times,
Free to perpetrate the ill on which they're bent!

For if Crime's High Priest is let off,
As an equitable "set off"
Minor evil-doers really should be praised!
That's the logical conclusion
Of the ethical confusion
By Rider Haggard's queer opinion raised!

"The Hidden Hand" Film can be seen this week at Dundee, Britannia Cinema; Dundee, Wellington Cinema; Wishaw, Picture House; Ashton-in-Makerfield, Picture House; Whitstable, Picture House; Sanquhar, Picture House; and next week at Fleetwood, Empress Cinema; Sheerness, Russell Street Electric Theatre; Canterbury, St. Peter Street Electric Theatre; Dundee, Main Street Picture Theatre; Brechin, Empire Cinema; Alness, The Cinema.

BOB WILLIAMS' CH

200 M.P.s to Resign!—Now or Never, Geo

By TH

TO-DAY (Wednesday), as these lines are read, Mr. Lloyd George will be back in town, to tell us all about what he and the other British delegates to the Paris Peace Conference have been doing. And an expectant nation will be waiting upon his words. I am writing some days in advance of that event, but I am not going to be rash enough to anticipate his statement—yet so far as it will relate to the things which matter, they are (1) Indemnities; (2) The Punishment of the Kaiser; and (3) The future of the German Colonies. I don't trouble myself about the League of Nations dream—that can wait. I am thinking of the ten thousand millions which, in one way and another, the war has cost *us*; and the crimes and atrocities which, in obedience to his command to "emulate the example of Attila," the German soldiery have been guilty of, and of those territories contiguous to various parts of the British Empire which, before the war, were under the malignant sway of Germany. I wipe out, therefore, not only the League, but also the "Freedom of the Seas"—whatever that may mean—"economic boycotts," and all the rest of it. I am concerned, at the moment, only with Britain's terms of Peace with the enemy. And, reading between the lines—in the light of such information as I possess—I am very much afraid that the Prime Minister is in for a bad time. You get an inkling of the situation from that message in reply to the telegram from Members of Parliament on the subject of Indemnities. "We stand by all our Election pledges," it says, in effect, "*and have done our best* to honour them; and if what we have done isn't all we ought to have done, we are prepared to submit ourselves to Parliament, and, if necessary, to the country." Well, that is an old device—"Worry us, and we'll send you back to the country, with all the trouble and expense and risk of another election." But this time it won't do. The boot, indeed, is on the other leg—"Fulfil your pledges, or we'll send *you* back to the country." It is an unique, an interesting, and a piquant situation.

200 M.P.s to Resign!

Let me at once acquaint the Prime Minister with the situation. Unless the news he brings from Paris is in all vital respects satisfactory, at least half of his Coalition majority will leave him. Two hundred of them will resign—or, at any rate, will apply for the "Chiltern Hundreds"—for no member can resign—and failing securing the necessary nominal appointments as "Stewards" (thus vacating their seats) will join the Opposition, and thus turn the Government out—and I am saying that which I know. We must always remember that the present Parliament is no mere collection of Party hacks. An enormous proportion of it has been, in some form or other, engaged in the war, and has come to Westminster determined to see the thing through—once and for all. And if, through any weakness or vacillation on the part of Ministers, they are prevented from honouring the pledges they gave at the General Election, they will seek the opportunity of putting themselves right with their constituents. This policy, indeed, was openly avowed the other day by Sir Edward Nicoll—one of the leading business men in the House—who declared that he would not retain his seat a single day after he found it impossible to keep faith with those who had elected him. *And I have been specially asked to make it clear to Mr. Lloyd George that many will follow that example.* Thus the threat of another election—so effective in the old days—has lost its terror. Let the Prime Minister, therefore, take warning. Personally, I hope he will come successfully through the ordeal. Certainly, so long as there is the faintest glimmer of hope that, backed up by the Commons, the voice of Britain in the Paris Council will prevail, he may rely upon my loyal support both in and out of Parliament. As I said last week, I have steadfastly refrained, since I returned to the House, from any course which would make his task more difficult. I uttered my warning during the Debate on the Address—and there I have been content to leave it. But if I find that there is any hanky-panky over the Peace Treaty, I am afraid I shall become a very great nuisance. "Make Germany Pay—No Return of the Colonies—Early Demobilisation—No Conscription—Punishment of the Kaiser"—these were my Election war cries, and I look to the Prime Minister when he speaks to-day to help me to honour them—as I wish to help him.

Well then, what are all these rumours and reports? That some of them are inspired there can be no doubt. I am familiar with the methods of the politician, and it is not without significance that the Premier's statement is not to be made till the day Parliament adjourns. Instead of Peace by Easter—which *should* be the message—I am afraid we are in for a shock. First of all, instead of at once signing judgment against Germany for the full cost of the war—between twenty-five and thirty thousand millions—she is to be let off with a quarter of that sum, and even that is to be collected in driblets. At any rate, that is the news which comes even in advance. And the Kaiser is not to be hanged for his villainy; and the Colonies are to be held in trust for the League of Nations! And whilst the Allies are groaning under the burden of war debt and taxation, and Germany is either recovering herself—*or concluding a Bolshevist bond with Russia and China*—America is to "scoop the pool"! If that be the message, heaven help the Government! And even these terms, we are given to understand, are subject to the approval and acceptance of the "German Government!" What Government? Who can bind a country gone mad? Why have we an army on the Rhine—except to enforce our will upon the enemy? No! there must be no more talk—no more Little Tens and Big Fours—no more Commissions. We have had ample time to make up our minds—I believe, too, that France is at one with us—and if Mr. Wilson doesn't agree with our demands—well, we are much obliged for his assistance—late, as it was, when it came—and now he can go home. We have had just about enough of his lectures and protestations, and there is splendid irony in the fact that the *George Washington* is the boat which is to take him back! Peace by Easter must be our motto. We need not trouble to communicate the terms to any so-called German Government; let us first appoint an Allied Commission to sit in Berlin till Germany's war debt has been honoured—with an adequate Army of Occupation looking on. *That's* the stuff—and the only stuff—to give 'em! As a matter of fact, we ought to have gone there before the Armistice was signed. Do you think that, if Germany had won the war, Paris and London would to-day have been unoccupied? What fools we have been! And all to oblige Mr. Wilson, who sat in his study, three thousand miles away from the battlefield, writing "Notes" and drafting "Points," whilst France and Britain and Belgium and Italy were being bled white! To paraphrase a well-known tag, "What fools we mortals be!"

Rocks Ahead!

I am afraid that altogether, the Prime Minister has trouble confronting him. I suppose it was more or less inevitable that he should be away so much from the House of Commons, but it was a risky experiment to leave the House to run loose. Mr. Bonar Law is the essence of courtesy and diplomacy, and is universally popular—but he is not Lloyd George; nor is he Prime Minister. After all, the Commons are very much like a public school, and when the head-master is away "the boys *will* play." There must be a Chief—some powerful dominating personality to keep the school in order; and the Treasury Bench is sadly lacking in that element at present. I shall never forget the look of amazement which came over Mr. Bonar Law's face when, during the Debate on the Address, the bulk of his own followers cheered me to the echo when I threatened to move the rejection of the Peace Treaty if it did not make adequate provision for full Indemnities. I fancy it was the first rude awakening he got to the fact that the crowded Coalition benches are occupied by supporters rather than followers; and it must be remembered that their support is not cemented by any strict Party ties or discipline. The majority of the Coalitionists are, indeed, strong Imperial Unionists—mostly of substantial personal means—who are content to accept Mr. Lloyd George as the Emergency Man for the situation and who,

LLENGE ACCEPTED.

—Rocks Ahead!—More Surprises Coming.

DITOR.

the moment the war crisis is past, would not require much temptation to enrol themselves under the banner of an All-Blue Leader. As my readers know, I have retired from the ranks of the prophets—at any rate, in regard to matters where politicians are liable to step in and upset all calculations—but I will predict with some confidence that when the Prime Minister rises to-day (Wednesday) in his place to make his promised statement, he will have an audience more critical, more alert, more suspicious, and more independent than any he has ever before addressed in all his Parliamentary experience. And if he toys with Indemnities or trifles with Retribution, and flirts with Conscription, and successfully comes through the ordeal—then, indeed, Sir Eric Geddes will have to resign the *rôle* he at present aspires to, of being the Super-man of the Ministry.

Now or Never, George!

In truth, it is now or never, George. The Prime Minister must get the country really behind him if he is to do all that is expected of him. He must take the strong line, carry Parliament with him, and secure the Peace forthwith. As I have said, in the House of Commons and out of it, the British case has been too much influenced by the so-called idealism of President Wilson. What we want is "a just peace and a clean peace"—which surely means a peace just to Britain and the Empire, as well as just to those of our Allies who shared with us the heat and burden of the fight. The Prime Minister cannot pretend that he has not had the complete confidence of the nation. When he "went to the country," last December, in the full flush of that Armistice—which was supposed by some foolish persons to be equal to complete victory—he got a majority which would have made the mouth of a Gladstone or a Salisbury water. But he has still to justify that splendid confidence of the electors. The British people are patient and long-suffering. They never whimpered during the war; they tolerated all sorts of indignities and irritation which an ever-interfering Executive heaped upon them. But to-day they are frankly "fed up"—they have had enough; they want to see Peace, in fact as well as in name; to put Germany once and for all in her place and then to get on with the good work of building that Britain "fit for heroes to live in." And so I once more give a bit of friendly advice to the Prime Minister—it is: "Now or Never, George"—get a move on!

More Surprises Coming.

I do not propose to dwell very much upon the lesson of the Hull election. I am far too old a Parliamentary hand to attach undue importance to this sort of thing. Reaction always follows in the wake of these big sweeping election victories. I do, however, agree that the tide is turning rather suddenly in this case; and, after all, I am not greatly surprised. The snail-like progress of the Peace Conference, and the doubt and uncertainty about the redemption of the Prime Minister's Election pledges, are the obvious explanations; and unless the Government pulls itself together before Parliament reassembles, I will not guarantee that it will get through another session. Apart from the threatened wholesale resignations at which I have already hinted, there are other surprises in store for Mr. Lloyd George. In the immediate future there will be of necessity several bye-elections, and I have reason to know that in some of them a distinct challenge will be thrown out, and the electors will be invited to send a message to the Premier of a nature which he will be unable to disregard. Personally, I entertain no doubt as to what their answer will be. It will be "Get On or Get Out!" I am the last to deny that Mr. Lloyd George rendered the Nation and the Empire and the world at large a great service in stepping into the breach at the psychological moment of the war. But I am no believer in the doctrine of the Indispensable Man, and I have a very strong opinion that, if for any reason he were shortly to throw up the sponge, someone else would be found ready and competent to enter the ring. Reverting, however, to the forthcoming tests, let it be remembered that an enormous number of soldiers are now back home, so that we shall not have a repetition of the farce of the General Election, when, in accordance with my prediction, only a little over a quarter of them recorded their votes—and can you doubt which way they will go? Later on, perhaps, I shall be able to give particulars, but in the meantime, and to save answering any questions, let me at once say that one of the scenes of the fight will *not* be South Hackney!

Bob Williams' Challenge.

The day before going to press with our last issue we received the following telegram:—

> *Just heard of your paper, and have had my attention drawn to your article indicating you may have something to say about myself. Will you let me write up same, as I know the facts so well?*
>
> Robert Williams.

It is not, however, our custom to act upon telegrams without evidence of their authenticity, and we were about to institute the necessary inquiries when all doubt was removed by the receipt of this letter:—

> Sir,—I am directed by Mr. Robert Williams to confirm the following telegram sent to you to-day:—
>
> Just heard of your paper, and have had my attention drawn to your article, indicating you may have something to say about myself. Will you let me write up same, as I know the facts so well?
>
> Yours faithfully, F. J. Maynard.

Unfortunately, the issue was then completely made up. It contained, as my readers are aware, our promised chapter, under the title of "Another 'Bolshy' Labour Leader," on the political record of Mr. Williams—whom we exposed as an out-and-out Bolshevist, bent upon fomenting industrial unrest and discord and precipitating revolution. In ordinary circumstances I should probably have followed up that article by further disclosures, for I assure Mr. Williams that his dossier is very complete, as indeed is that of certain other agitators with whom it may become my duty to deal as time goes on. I hope, however, that it may never be said of this journal that we refuse to give anyone whom we attack the fullest opportunity of defence, and accordingly the following reply has been sent:—

> Sir,—I duly received your telegram of the 4th, and subsequently the confirmatory letter. I regret that by the time it reached me our last issue had been made up, and that great pressure of work has prevented my answering earlier. I now, however, write to say that our columns are open to any reply you care to make to the article which we have published, or to any narrative relating to your views and policy with which you may be pleased to favour me. I do not, of course, dispute the statement that you "know the facts so well," and can only express the hope that the particulars I have published may serve to refresh your memory. I do not desire to place any restraint upon your pen, but I should particularly like to know whether you dispute that at Manchester, on May 6th, of last year, you said: "If we are sincere in sending our congratulations to the Russian people, we must be prepared to emulate their conduct. Revolution, like charity, begins at home"; whether you also said, "We want a mandate from the organised working classes to break the industrial and political Labour machine . . . and damn the Constitution"; whether, on June 15th, you said, "Have as little concern for the British Constitution as the Russians you are praising had for the Romanoffs . . . go thou and do likewise"—and whether you adhere to those views.
>
> Perhaps you would at the same time inform me whether another item which I find in your dossier is correct—namely, that an occasional visitor at your home is a certain registered alien enemy, of very strong pro-German sympathies.
>
> Meanwhile, permit me to subscribe myself
>
> Your Un-obedient Servant, The Editor.

Of course, I cannot say whether Mr. Williams will see fit to accept my invitation—which, by the way, is equally open to Mr. Smillie—if he thinks I have done him any injustice by proclaiming him to be in partnership with Mr. Williams in a conspiracy to establish a reign of terror in the land, themselves filling the *rôles* of Lenin and Trotsky, the world's two greatest criminals of all time—not even excluding the Kaiser and his crew.

In giving publicity on this page to the views of correspondents, preference will be accorded to brief letters bearing name and address for publication.

All envelopes and letters must be marked "P.P." in left-hand corner.

THE PEOPLE'S PULPIT.

The readers of "JOHN BULL" discuss matters of Public Interest.

Letters for this page must relate to public, as distinguished from personal, topics.

For short acknowledgments of communications and replies to other letters—selected from our general mail—see "Letter Bag," page 14.

"Scraps of Paper."

If there is a written law against prosecuting the Sovereign of a State I would suggest that *that* "scrap of paper" be destroyed. The International Tribunal, whatever their verdict, will sign, at least, one death warrant—the death of the ex-Kaiser, or the death of Monarchy. Let them choose.—E. BYRNS, Leigh Road, Wimborne, Dorset.

(*An excellent and concise summary of the situation.*)

Marriage Reform.

Why should not a widow be permitted to marry her deceased husband's brother? Medical opinion can offer no objection to such a union. What then is the objection? Many marriages of this kind have taken place in England in the mistaken belief that they were legal. Must the children of these unions, contracted in all ignorance of the law's intricacies, bear throughout life the stigma of illegitimacy?—HAL. ARNOTT, Buckingham Terrace, Hull.

(*We have a Marriage Law Reform Bill in hand, which we hope to introduce at an early date.*)

Maintaining the Mystery.

Bricklayers who apply for work at the Labour Exchanges are offered jobs in different parts of the country, but when they ask for the names of the firms concerned, they are told: "We are not allowed to tell you that as it is confidential information." Now, who is more entitled to that information than the man out of work? It would be a nice position for a chap to travel over a 100 miles and find when he got to the job that there was a dispute on. The system certainly wants altering.—W. COMBEN, Saunderstead Road, South Croydon.

(*We presume our friend means that his own Labour Exchange refers him to another in the locality where the work is available, in which case we suggest he should make inquiries from the local office*).

Inventors and Commerce.

Many inventors are poor men, for when a man has inventive powers he often lacks business instincts, and thus becomes the prey of dishonest manufacturers. Yet the inventor is an essential unit in the army of commerce, for without him we should not progress far, and if we assisted him we should develop our trade to a surprising degree. What about a Government grant to enable poor inventors to maintain themselves during their completion of models, etc., provided they prove novelty, adaptability, and usefulness of their invention? W. M. WORMAN, Tingewick Cottage, Buckingham.

(*It is an old story, and a permanently and properly organised Inventions Department of the Government is the only solution.*)

Five Guineas will be paid each week to the writer of what we consider to be the most interesting letter. That amount has been sent to Mr. Taylor, the writer of the starred letter.

What the People Want.

The mass of people in this country are not infected by the virus of Bolshevism. The only way in which they can be roused to extreme action is by the stupidity of those in authority pandering either to profiteers or to revolution and anarchy. The things that would satisfy the people are a bit better house to live in, a bit better security for unemployment, a bit more leisure and a real living wage for all. They don't want to take over the management of great businesses for which they have no training. They just want human conditions for human beings.—J. B. TAYLOR, Templehurst, Grays, Essex.

(*A very sensible letter, which hits the nail on the head*).

The "Ninepence for Fourpence Act."

We want no German offspring in this country. Let steps be taken to compel the Government to disgorge the £400,000 which was given illegally to the London doctors and against the decision of the late Mr. Danckwerts, K.C., and to ascertain the amount still standing against the Government right through the country, this sum having accumulated through the contributors having failed to select their medical men.—J. F. BAWN, The Crest, Gotham Lawn Road, Bristol.

(*We must put a few nasty questions to the Government about this matter!*)

De Valera.

De Valera, the rebel, is back again in Dublin where he has been received by the Mayor and citizens with tremendous enthusiasm. Why is this virulent insurrectionist, after having "escaped" from prison, allowed to remain at large when his whereabouts are common knowledge, and he moreover persists in his active anti-British propaganda? The cause of his easy departure from Lincoln should have been thoroughly investigated at once and suitable action taken; and not only should De Valera himself be promptly and severely dealt with, but also those responsible for his escape and present freedom.—J. M. HAMILTON, Surrey Road, Waverley Park, S.E.

(*We are asking the Home Secretary whether the usual reward was offered for De Valera's re-arrest, and whether the Government has any knowledge of his present whereabouts.*)

Reduction of Postal Rates.

If the Government wishes to help us all back to pre-war conditions, one of the first war-time tax "impositions" to be removed should be the additional postage on letters and parcels. This would have a far-reaching effect in stimulating trade, from a business point of view, whilst it would be of no small consideration to those who are out of employment, and answering "likely" adverts. every day.—DORIS THORNE, Southview Drive, Westcliff-on-Sea.

(*The last mentioned argument certainly appeals to us, and we will bear it in mind.*)

Will America Oblige?

It would seem that Mr. Wilson is the only one of the "Big Four" who is against getting an indemnity out of Germany. As America has suffered least in the war, both in lives and in property, I suggest that the Allies ask America to stump up the full indemnity of 24,000 millions and then she can get it or not, as she likes, out of the Germans. There would have been a good deal less of this talk of morally wronging Germany if the Peace Conference had been held in Flanders instead of in Paris.—R. ROBINSON, Stanley Crescent, Notting Hill, W.

(*Such sordid considerations would shock the sensitive soul of Mr. Wilson!*)

The Traffic Octopus.

Is it not high time that a long-suffering Public were up in arms against the barefaced robbery which is being perpetrated by the L.G.O.C., Ltd.? This Speyer Trust is the traffic octopus, and has the poor working classes in its cruel tentacles. A concern like the L.G.O.C., Ltd., has no justification whatever in openly profiteering. Cannot the workers be induced generally to boycott this trust, or perhaps the Government can be persuaded to put a limit upon its avaricious methods?—SIDNEY B. SAMUEL, Caldcot Road, S.E.5.

(*On the other hand, the Company claims that it is earning only three per cent on its capital—whilst there is also the spectre of the Excess Profits Tax.*)

Tax Alien Labour.

Now that unemployment is prevalent and it is necessary to curtail expenditure, increase production, and improve matters generally in our country, why not tax all employers of alien labour to such an extent that it would be considerably cheaper for them to employ British only? This would have the effect of clearing out all undesirables, thereby proving a practical Alien law; would create more employment for our own people, and would also save a lot of recording, watching, etc., so that should the necessity ever again arise for internment, the expenditure would be very small.—A. E. ROUTLEDGE, Union Road, Walthamstow.

(*But after Peace is declared we will have* NO *alien labour in this country!*)

"THE GREATEST OF THESE—"

(*Registered under the Act of 1916 as "The John Bull War Sufferers' Fund."*)

This fund affords immediate relief to the dependents of soldiers and sailors stranded for want of money. Every farthing subscribed goes to some deserving person—we gladly defray all expenses.

Among the numerous cases we assisted during the week were the following:—

A Hard Case:—Husband an ex-soldier in hospital undergoing an operation; wife an invalid, and child down with influenza. The rent was in arrear.

A Bitter Struggle:—A soldier died a fortnight after his release from the Army. The widow has a struggle to support an orphan and an aged mother, who is ailing.

No Pension:—A discharged man, without pension, and suffering from bronchitis, is unable to follow his employment. There is little in the cupboard, and a heavy doctor's bill is due.

Another Hard Case:—Her husband in hospital, the wife of a demobilised man without pension is unable to work. There is a delicate little daughter who requires great care.

A Sad Homecoming:—A soldier on leave to bury his wife and child, who were not insured, was grateful for the help we were able to afford.

Almost Blind:—A discharged soldier is almost blind and suffering from chest trouble. Before coming to us, his wife had pawned most of the household things to keep the pot boiling.

Sold Up:—The home of a soldier's wife was sold up, and she was destitute—also in poor health and is ordered nourishing food.

"Flu" Again:—Three children of a soldier have been down with the current epidemic, and the expenses of medical attendance, etc., have caused the rent to get in arrear. The poor mother is worried to death, and before seeking our assistance parted with personal belongings to try and pay her way. This is only one of many cases of the kind which we cope with, as far as the means at our disposal will permit.

Other Cases Helped:—

A soldier's wife in poor health, child seriously ill.

A soldier's widow in delicate health. Seven orphans and an aged father to support.

A demobilised soldier met with an accident and cannot work. Has wife and six children.

A soldier's wife and ten children down with influenza. Was in arrears with landlord and grocer.

Discharged man with no pension; he is ill and has seven mouths to feed.

Airman's widow had accident. Children out to nurse, which expense could not be met without assistance.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

WHAT HAVE *YOU* GIVEN?

Canteen Fund, 7th Lincolnshire Regt., £20; R. K. (France), £1; J. R. (Bath), 2s.; E. M. S. (Clifton), £1 1s.; S. T., 5s.; No. 31 Mess, H.M.S. *Victorious* (per E. J. D.), £3; "B." (Nottingham), 10s.; "Beda" (Cardiff), 2s. 6d.; W. C. (Edson Grove), 3s.; C. W., 5s. 9d.; W. W. (S. Africa), 2s. 6d.; F. W. (Small Heath), 1s.; Canteen Fund, H.M.S. *Lord Nelson* (per E. P. S. H.), £5; "Effath," £3; "Cymro," 1s.; "Bracondale," 5s.; "North Kate," 6s.; F. C. J. (Bedford), 2s. 6d.; J. M., 10s.; "The Students of Rathmines Ladies' College, Dublin," £2 12s.; "Auntie's Lamb," 3s.; J. S. (Wembley), 10s.; S. A. B. (Croydon), 10s.; "No Yankee Bluff," 10s.; Mrs. F. S. B. (Pretoria), 10s.; "A Soldier's Wife and Children," 2s. 6d.; "Canadian Soldier," 2s. 6d.; Collection, per Mrs. B. L. Whyte (S. Rhodesia), £1; Mrs. H. S. P. (Erwood), 2s. 6d.; T. G. W. (Fairview), £1; R. W. (Orrel), 1s.; Nurse S., 2s. 6d.; "Demshir Dumplin," 10s.; "Good by Stealth," 10s.; "One of the Boys," 1s.; W. K. (Port Talbot), 5s.; J. A. B., 5s.; H. G. (Thame), 2s. 6d.; "Sympathetic," 10s.; "A Gunner," 1s.; R. C. (Chichester), 1s.; Mrs. M. (Hampstead), 1s.; E. J. D. (Tunbridge Wells), £1; E. M. (Highgate), £1; Mrs. M. (Bridekirk), 1s.; F. H. (Wrexham), 1s.; R. W. (Leyland), 1s.; Swear Box, Minesweeper *Hibernia II.*, 16s. 3d.; "Taxi Driver, 5272," 1s.; J. C. B. (Plymouth), 1s.; B. H. (Cefn Rhulon), 5s.; R. B. (Johannesburg), £1 1s.; M. C. (Southport), 1s.; "In Memory of G. M." (Mountain Ash), 2s.; "A Grateful Widow," £1; A. W. E., 10s.; "Widow's Mite," 10s. 6d.; "Admirer of Joux Bull" (Edinburgh), 4s.; "A Thankoffering" (Gillingham), 5s.; W. L. L. (France), 2s. 6d.; "Demobbed," 5s.; J. R. (Glasgow), 5s.; "Heaton Moor," 2s. 6d.; "Tamma," 5s.; "Fiver" (Cardiff), 5s.; G. U. (Dover), 2s. 6d.; L. A. (Wonford), 2s. 6d.; "Poethlyn," 4s.; T. W. N. (Gt. Harwood), £2 2s.; S. R. (Hartlepool), 5s.; W. N. S., 2s. 6d.; "Artos," £1 1s.; J. T. H. (Lincoln), 1s. 6d.; Anon., 2s. 6d.; "An Old Competitor," 10 francs; Anon., 2s. 6d.; S. A. H. (Chester), £2 2s.; "A Bristol Reader," 4s. 6d.; J. S., 1s.; J. T. H. (Hammersmith), 20 francs.; "The Three Maes," £1; "Lucky" (Portsmouth), 2s. 6d.; G. L., 1s.; J. H. S., 1s. 6d.; L. H., 1s.; "A Soldier's Friend," 1s.; E. P. (Plumstead), 1s.; "Fed Up Prisoners of War," 1s.; A. C., 1s.; E. B. (Southall), 2s. 6d.

MR. BOTTOMLEY SAYS "PELMANISE IT."

In a recent article in JOHN BULL Mr. Bottomley concluded his remarks with a vigorous "PELMANISE IT."

It is the phrase of the day. Everyone is doing it—everyone, that is, who wants to get on in the world. But readers of JOHN BULL—who are of the "getting-on" kind—will naturally attach especial importance to this advice when it comes, as it does, from the pen of the most fearlessly independent public man in Britain.

THE MAN WHO MEANS BUSINESS.

For what Horatio Bottomley says *he means*. He is no dealer in empty catch-words. He does not traffic in meaningless formulæ. He is no mouther of senseless shibboleths. He is a man who hands out solid FACTS in every article he writes, and he knows that in Pelmanism we possess one of *the big facts* of the day. He knows too, what splendid national work the Pelman Institute has done, is doing, and will do in the future. And he believes in Pelmanism as a priceless and peerless national asset.

Moreover, it is not only Now, when Pelmanism has become world famous, that H.B. believes in it. With his usual far-sightedness he insisted upon its national value long before any other prominent public man raised a voice in its praise. Years ago he said of the Pelman System that "under a Business Government it would form part of our national education." And now, years later, although perhaps the Business Government of which he spoke has not yet been constituted, Pelmanism has certainly become an important part of our national life.

THE ARMY'S MAGNIFICENT LEAD.

Mr. Bottomley's advice to "Pelmanise it" has been followed by tens of thousands of JOHN BULL's readers. It has been followed by thousands of business men and women, by thousands of members of the Professions, by thousands of men in the Army and Navy. And it has been followed, too, with the best results. For Pelmanism never disappoints those who conscientiously follow it. You cannot work through the Pelman Course without securing real, practical and profitable advantages in your career.

The Army has given a truly magnificent lead to the entire nation in adopting Pelmanism—well over 100,000 officers and men having taken up the Course in the last year or two. *And the rate of enrolment is increasing daily.* Each month that passes sets up a new record. Brigade enrolments of several hundred men at one time are by no means uncommon. Applications for these "mass enrolments" have been received during the past three weeks from all parts—from France, from the occupied districts of Germany, from Egypt and from Italy. The Army discovered the value of Pelmanism during the war, and it has determined to apply it to ensure Prosperity in the coming days of Peace.

THE TOPIC OF THE YEAR.

The same thing is happening in civil life. It is no longer a case of here and there a single ardent and ambitious employé in a firm enrolling himself for a Course; to-day the heads of big business houses are taking the matter in hand themselves and enrolling the members of their staffs by scores and even by hundreds for a course of Pelmanism,

Wherever you go, in fact, you meet Pelmanists and hear Pelmanism discussed. It is *the* topic of the year, and every day public interest in this wonderful system intensifies. There never has been a movement which has promised so much for the workers, and which has fulfilled its promises so truly, so fully and so promptly.

The Directors of the Pelman Institute do not permit extravagant over-statements to be made in their Press and other announcements. Many Pelmanists, in fact, are rather apt to write to the Institute pointing out that in their judgment the value of the Course is being under-stated. "If the full facts were known," writes one, "the doors of the Pelman Institute would be besieged by eager applicants."

This is undoubtedly true. A man wants to "make good." If he only understood the possibilities of Pelmanism the first thing he would do would be to adopt it—and then he would "make good." At the present time perhaps he has only read about Pelmanism in the papers, or heard it talked about. He hasn't tried it yet himself. But he will. One day he will follow the example of the several hundred thousand practising Pelmanists and take the Course. And then he will get the same results as they are getting—improved positions and doubled and trebled incomes.

HIGHER PAY WITHOUT STRIKES OR OVERTIME.

Income increases! Why the income increases brought about by practising Pelmanism are simply marvellous. Talk about strikes for Higher Pay! Pelmanism means higher pay without strikes and without overtime either. For the Pelmanist can put in more and better work in one hour than the non-Pelmanist can put in in two. And he can do it without brain-fag and with far less mental exertion. If your brain is working stiffly and dully you may strain it if you work it hard, just as when machinery is clogged and rusty you may strain that when you switch on the power. Oil lubricates and eases the machinery, and Pelmanism oils and eases the brain. The Pelmanised brain works easily and swiftly, so that whatever you are doing becomes a pleasure and not a pain. Whereas the work of the heavy, sleepy, clogged and strained brain is usually poor work, the work of a Pelmanist is good work—and being good work it is well-paid work. That's why your income goes up when you take a Pelman Course. Some even report as much as a 300 per cent. increase of income as the result of Pelmanism (your income *trebled*, think of that!) and there is at least one case where a man is able to attribute a 600 *per cent.* increase of income to the adoption of Pelmanism.

As for reports of incomes increased from 50 to 100 per cent., these are every-day occurrences, so that there can be no possible doubt whatever that from a purely financial point of view Pelmanism pays hand over fist, and is a sound gilt-edged investment which never fails to pay big and growing dividends.

DEVELOPS POWER AND PERSONALITY.

But money is not all that Pelmanism brings to you. There are other things in the world equally desirable—more desirable to some. And Pelmanism helps to get these also. Take the case of a prosperous Business or Professional man who becomes a Pelmanist, not for the purpose of swelling his banking account—he may have made as much money as he really wants already—but to help him retain a youthful brightness and activity of mind long after middle age has been passed. We all know men and women, old perhaps in years, but young in mind and disposition, bubbling over with energy, who still take to their business that mental freshness and clarity which brought them success whilst they were still young. That is the Pelman type. That is the type that Pelmanism preserves and is increasing. Many people when they have made their business position secure like to turn their attention to something else—public life, politics, literature, science, something quite different to their regular occupation. Pelmanism enables this mental transition to be made with ease, and success to be won in the new sphere as in the old. Pelmanism brings out latent and perhaps unsuspected talents. It develops *Personality*, it enables people to give full and fitting expression to their ideas, to lead instead of following, to originate instead of copying; in a word, it develops an all-round mental capacity and efficiency which can be used by its Pelmanised possessor, either as a means of increasing income or for any other purpose he or she may desire. And as tens of thousands of cases can be quoted to prove all these things small wonder that Pelmanism is so popular.

Pelmanism is a practical personalised method which enables you to become more efficient, to increase your income-earning powers, and to be successful in whatever line of life is yours. It costs little to learn and is easy to master. It has brought golden opportunities to thousands. And if you determine to follow it, it will be of the greatest possible personal and profitable service to YOU.

Full particulars of the Pelman Course are given in "Mind and Memory," which also contains a complete descriptive Synopsis of the 12 lessons. A copy of this interesting booklet, together with a full reprint of "Truth's" famous Report on the work of the Pelman Institute, and particulars showing how you can secure the complete Course at a reduced fee, may be obtained gratis and post free by any reader of JOHN BULL, *who applies to the Pelman Institute, 15, Pelman House, Bloomsbury Street, London, W.C.1.*

Overseas addresses: 46-48, Market Street, Melbourne. 15, Toronto Street, Toronto. Club Arcade, Durban.

9d. for 4d.—8/- for nothing!—See our FREE Fire Insurance offer on page 16.

"TOMMY AND JACK."

Dealing also with the Discharged Sailor and Soldier and their Dependents

OUR PLEDGE.—"No case of hardship or injustice, no instance of beggarly treatment or mean cheeseparing, shall go unchallenged and unremedied."—*Horatio Bottomley*, 19th August, 1916

"TOMMY."

Fever-Stricken:—It is about time the War Council ordered the immediate demobilisation of the tremendously large number of malaria cases now in this country. Repeated attacks make the sufferers useless as soldiers.

A Court-Martial Craze:—Field General Courts-Martial at Kantara, in Egypt, appear to be as common as fleas in the hotels, and papers before us show that many of the cases might be dealt with simply by Officers Commanding. Perhaps the heat has affected somebody's head out there.

It "Beats the Band":—At the Stadt Theatre at Boim, nightly entertainments are given. The orchestra used to consist of bandsmen from various regiments who receive no pay, but recently a number of them retired and were replaced by discharged German soldiers, who are given 25 marks for each performance. Our men are not allowed to fraternise with the Germans—nor should they take our good money.

Selling Soldiers' Comforts:—The other day a soldier in the N.Z. Contingent at Hornchurch purchased in the camp an ounce packet of tobacco, which contained the following note: "Dear Tommy, I hope you will enjoy this smoke, I would like to give you more. Please drop a line to ——, Surrey Street, Glasgow." We wonder what explanaton of this startling discovery can be put forward.

The "K Company" Injustice:—There is naturally great soreness over the continued refusal of the Treasury to carry out the recommendations of the Select Committee which reported in favour of service spent with "K" Company of the Royal Engineers being counted for civil pension. The Treasury persist in stonewalling, but "My Lords" will ultimately be forced to admit the justice of the claim of this most deserving class.

"JACK."

Disappointed:—The crews of the Yacht Patrol vessels were rather disappointed the other day with the reply given in Parliament concerning gratuities. The officers are to receive the Discharge Gratuity, but the men are not, which does not seem fair to us.

Minesweepers' Money:—The crews of the various Minesweepers tell us that they are still waiting for the bonus of 1s. 6d. a day mentioned in Admiralty Instructions, pending the granting of a permanent increase in pay of the Navy. The parent ship of the vessels in question is H.M.S. *Eaglet*, regarding whose funny method of paying out we have had more than one complaint.

Demobilisation:—Now that the Fleets have been dispersed, it is about time that the Authorities hurried up in the matter of demobilisation. If the Admiralty wish to be put wise, we can give them a list of vessels which are lying up doing nothing but costing the taxpayer enormous sums of money.

For the Skipper:—We put it to the Captain of the R.A.F. *Palmol*, at Harwich, that his crew are not being fairly treated. They tell us that they are not allowed to go ashore to purchase food or clothing, although the lads in the engine room are granted this privilege. This distinction has caused much bad feeling on board.

Victimised:—We recently mentioned that a seaman on H.M.S. *Gloucester* in the Adriatic was refused leave ashore for over 15 months, because he had not been inoculated. He is in the Naval Barracks at home, and cannot obtain dental treatment for the same reason. We commend this case to Whitehall, particularly as inoculation is not compulsory in the service. Must we bring it up in Parliament?

"THE SILVER BADGERS."

Secretaries of Discharged Sailors' and Soldiers' organisations, in sending cases of injustice or other information, should mark their envelopes "Silver Badgers."

Forsaken Epileptics:—The war has produced thousands of epileptics, a large proportion of whom are not fitted for work, and few even of them can find employment owing to their disability. Such cases should be treated as totally disabled, and to our mind the victims should be entitled to the 100 per cent. rate of pension. Civil employers are not the only ones to turn such poor fellows away. We have before us a letter to one of them from the Custom House, telling him that owing to the fact that he is suffering from epilepsy, his present temporary employment has been terminated. Who is to help these sufferers?

A Hard Case:—Badger Twining served the Blackfriars Type Foundry, Ltd., for nearly 20 years, and was called to the Army in 1918. A testimonial from the firm states that "he has always given us the greatest satisfaction in every manner possible." At the same time in a letter to the man they say that "on account of trouble in Labour and the high wages demanded," they regret that they cannot re-engage him. Some employers do not seem to realise how Labour troubles are started.

Generosity Gone Mad:—This is a copy of a notice put on the board in the Sorting Branch of the G.P.O., Liverpool: "Two Vacancies for Night Telephonists and Call Office Attendants—Pay, during training 20s. (22s. if 23 years of age or over). After appointment, 23s., then by annual increments of 2s. 6d. to 32s., plus usual war bonus in each case. Hours of duty, 54, day or night. In Liverpool the entire attendance is night duty regularly. *No* extra pay for Sundays, Bank Holidays, etc. Applications from disabled ex-soldiers with as much as three years Colour Service, now employed in a temporary capacity, may be handed to the Superintendent." Anybody wish to be sweated? A rush to take up the jobs has not yet set in.

RACING NOTES AND ANTICIPATIONS.

THE EASTER RACING CARNIVAL.

By "THE SQUIRE."

One is glad to see that the lady owners of the period do not make pets of their horses, and after a success or two keep them to look at. POETHLYN provided all the spectacular trimmings in connection with this year's Grand National, and Mrs. Hugh Peel has, I understand, decided that Lancashire holiday makers shall have another view of him on Easter Monday.

It is usual for a Liverpool winner to be rested for the remainder of the season, but POETHLYN like EREMON, some years' ago, took next to nothing out of himself the other week, and as he takes up no penalty he is bound—bar accidents—to beat the same horses again. He will be at 6 to 4 against or less on the day, unless there is a demonstration on behalf of some newcomer.

In this connection I heard when at Liverpool a very favourable word from one who knew the horse well when in Ireland, of Culprit who for some time has been in Gores' place at Findon. He had what is known in racing parlance as a "leg," but if he is sent north it will be evidence that he is all right again. Keep an eye on him! On the principle that a short-priced winner is better than an outsider that loses, my money is again going on POETHLYN.

Rizzio disappointed me a lot at Newbury. He is like all the Ciceros'—a non-stayer—and none too game at that. Rizzio is not likely to trouble the Panther in the Derby. However, Ramboda justified what I wrote about him after the Liverpool Spring Cup. He only wanted a straight course. He got it at Newbury and won. He will win again

Selections:—

BIRMINGHAM—Monday.
Spring Handicap, *SANDMOLE.

HURST PARK—Monday.
Victory Cup, RAMBODA.
Queen's Prize, GREEK SCHOLAR.
Rendlesham Stakes, *CHARLIE'S SMILE.

MANCHESTER.—Monday.
Cheetham Hurdle, CEYX.
Lancashire Chase, *POETHLYN.
Spring Hurdle, CORYDON.
Alderly Maiden, MUSCOVITE.

MANCHESTER—Tuesday.
Swinton Chase, *WATERGRUEL.
Jubilee Hurdle, AYNSLEY; danger, JOHN JACKET.
Five Hundred Chase, BERNSTEIN.

This week's

Tells You How to:

(1) "Get over" the Spring-cleaning with the least trouble.
(2) Celebrate the Easter-tide Feast.
(3) Make the Soil in your garden work.
(4) Regard the Question of "Vaccination."

ASK YOUR NEWSAGENT TO GET YOU A COPY

PRINTER'S PIE.

(Half-a-crown is paid to the sender of every item published under this heading. Envelopes must be marked "Pie.")

"REFEREE" (advertisement):—
"The Chinese Puzzle . . . Emphatically NOTHING TO BE SEEN."

"SUNDAY CHRONICLE":—
"Lord Salvesen, the presiding judge, arrived in Aberdeen on Monday night and GAVE A WINNER in the Palace Hotel."

"DAILY SKETCH":—
"The average BOY SCOUT is infinitely better fitted to be a MOTHER than the girl who has just left school after a standard education."

INSURANCE COMMITTEE FOR THE COUNTY OF LONDON (report):—
"We recommend that the Committee are of opinion that the practitioner referred to . . . was not negligent in connection with the treatment provided by him for the insured person (now DECEASED) concerned, and that a copy of the foregoing report be forwarded to the LATTER."

"UNION JACK LIBRARY":—
"Pedro, the bloodhound, gazed up at him with eyes so plaintive as to BRING A LUMP TO THE EX-CRACKSMAN'S EYES."

JOHN BULL, LIMITED.

Notice is hereby given that the Preference Registers of the Company will be closed from Thursday the 17th April to Thursday the 24th April (both days inclusive) for the purpose of the preparation of the dividend warrants.

By order,
COLES L. HARRIS,
Secretary.

SOME MEN DON'T KNOW

that oilcloth, though sold at a low price, is one of the most expensive floor coverings they can buy. The reason for this is that the material used in the making, and the thin amount of paint imprinted on the surface, together with the poverty of the canvas basis, cannot last under heavy foot traffic—in fact, won't stand for long the ordinary usage of the home where healthy children run about. The cheapest material in the long run is Catesbys Cork Lino, because, whether tried in kitchen or sitting-room, it easily withstands the hardest service it can bear in a working man's home; and it costs very little more than the oilcloth which so quickly wears out. The colours are liberally and scientifically fixed to the material, which is made of the best possible constituents, and by expert labour and patent machinery. Our samples, post free, prove its thickness and goodness. With samples we send book of coloured designs and prices. We sell on Easy Terms without security, or allow 2/- in the £ discount for cash. We pay carriage.

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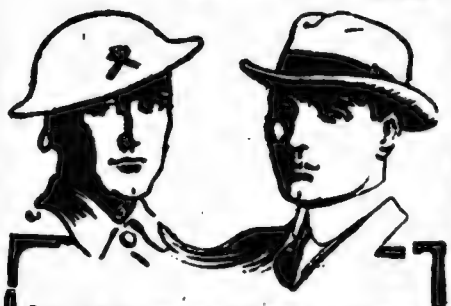
Get back to Civvies"



SOLDIERS who are laying down gun and kit and taking up civil duties once again are finding it difficult to get the made-to-measure suit they want at a reasonable price and prompt expert attention. Shoddy ready-to-wear or haggardly supplied expensive suits at cash prices seem to be the perplexing alternative unless you come to Catesbys. To you boys wanting "civvies," good fitting and promptly, we offer really good made-to-measure clothing wherever you may be. Our by post measurement method, pleasing patterns, moderate prices, book of styles and fair credit, ensure you the suit you want, when you want it. Write for patterns and prices of the popular "Burlington" Suit now. Among the patterns are refined looking blue serges, real tweeds and distinctive colour effects.

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is the great work and play confection—not only pleases the palate, but helps to centre your mind on the thing in hand. Its clean cool flavour is a splendid refresher when you are working hard. Always have a packet handy.

ADAMS Chewing Gum is as pure as distilled water. Besides ADAMS SPEARMINT there are other fine flavours you should try. ½d. a stick, 2½d. per packet at sweet shops and chemists.

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J.B. **THOMAS INCH**, Putney, London, S.W.

POUNDS FROM PENCE. Golden Opportunities for making money by keeping Poultry, Birds, or Allotment are explained in "POULTRY WORLD" 2d. The Indispensable POULTRY Weekly. "CAGE BIRDS" 2d. makes bird breeding easy. "FOOD" the Smallholder's Friend 1d. Tells how to get the best out of Allotment or Garden. All Newsagents and Bookstalls, every Friday. Specimens free from Publisher, 251, Fleet street, London, E.C.

Sir F. H. Cowen, Mus. Doc., writes:—"I have tried 'De Reszke' American Cigarettes and find them excellent—mild, and at the same time with a most pleasant flavour. For a Virginia cigarette I could desire nothing better."

Sir A. M. S. Methuen, Bart., writes:—"Excellent."

Miss Victoria Cross writes:—"I find your 'De Reszke' American Cigarettes exquisite. The blend seems to be absolutely perfect and most delightful in every way."

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POULTRY Paid my Rent

A COTTAGER'S EXPERIENCE

"I MADE a profit last year from my fifteen hens of £5 6s. 2d., which more than paid the rent of our cottage." So writes a Devonshire customer who purchased from us in 1917 one dozen White Wyandotte Day Old Chicks and one sitting of White Leghorns.

A FARMER'S EXPERIENCE

Early in 1915 we persuaded a farmer in Staffordshire to kill his old barn door assortment of fowls and to keep only our Pentland Strain of great layers. He wrote us in November, 1918, as follows:—

"Since stocking your Pentland Strain of White Leghorns, my poultry have practically paid the rent of this 630 acre farm. We used to consider 50 eggs per bird per annum good, but with your stock our average last year was over 160 eggs per bird."

Remember, it costs no more in food, space, and labour to keep fowls laying from 160 to 200 eggs each than it does to keep a badly bred assortment laying only from 50 to 80 eggs each.

Follow Our Advice and Make Big Money from Poultry.

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A DAY AT ROMANNO, BRITAIN'S LARGEST POULTRY FARM, SITUATED IN THE HEALTHY, BREEZY PENTLAND HILLS,

or a Postal Order for 12/6 for a trial sitting of eggs, or 25/- for 12 strong, healthy, day-old chicks, either White Wyandottes, White Leghorns, Black Leghorns, Rhode Island Reds, or Light Sussex.

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"John Bull's" Letter Bag.

[*The EDITOR replies to, and chats with, some of his numerous correspondents.*]

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LETTERS *must be addressed to the Editor or Publishers, 93, Long Acre, W.C.2, according to whether they relate to Editorial or Publishing matters.* FINANCIAL, INSURANCE, *or* LEGAL *enquiries should be addressed to the Financial, Insurance, or Legal Editor, and must each be accompanied by a postal order for one shilling. No fee is charged in respect of other enquiries. Full names and addresses should be given.*

"TOMMY" (Dublin). Some form of Military Service is essential if we are to be in a position to exact the terms of peace.

C. F. (Rédland).—*Ile* "Enemy Princes, but for your persistence in the matter I doubt——." Thanks.

"MINER-SOLDIERS" (Stoke).—"Why did not the Government let us finish the Germans while we were about it?" Ask President Wilson.

"MARK TAPLEY" (Waterloo) wants us to "ask the comedian who inaugurated the Ministry of Labour how many officers have obtained posts through the Bureau since the Armistice." Hardly any to speak of.

A. A. S. (Nottingham). So far as we know, a Committee of Inquiry has not been "appointed to ascertain the capacity of Britain to pay for the war."

"OLD READER" (London).—Divorce law reform has always had our strong advocacy. Until the war is over, however, the Government demands claim the whole time of Parliament.

"NAPINSKY" (Penryn).—"*Daily Mirror*: 'No Hitch at the Peace Conference.' *Express*: 'Wilson Holds up the Peace.' What a damn lot of liars the English Press is." Hush! somebody's listening.

V. M. P. (Camberwell, S.E.).—Thanks for your suggestion that we should publish periodically a supplement containing Mr. Bottomley's speeches in the House of Commons, but the official Parliamentary Report can always be obtained through any newsagent.

PTE. P. E. H. (B.E.F.).—Films, exhibited in France, being American made, show the war from the American point of view. Can't blame them for natural, national bluff, but do blame our producers for being so slow.

"POOR HELPLESS COLOURED MEN" (S. Shields).—So coloured Britons are barred from ships in the Shields district also. We have taken up the fight for your brothers in Glasgow, and you are now included.

A. D. (Houghton-le-Spring).—We too would like to make the Huns compensate you and others for slaving you in their mines. Sorry you'll find nothing doing.

"MINER."—So you think we are in the pay of the Coalowners, do you? Well, you won't think so long. Meanwhile read our articles again.

J. S. (London).—No, we have *not* seen an "official circular to the Press asking it not to comment on Hun Aliens," etc. Can you send us a copy?

"CRIPPLE" (Liverpool).—Sorry there wasn't proper accommodation at the Grand National for crippled soldiers. But it *was* a crowd, wasn't it?

W. C. (Glam.).—"You are Tommy and Jack's champion, but don't you think you could also champion the civilian?" Well, and don't we?

Mrs. M. (Leicester).—Should be delighted to tell you what date Shrove Tuesday fell on in 1853, but unfortunately our calendar for that year has gone to blazes.

J. W. L. (Boston) will join with any other victims in taking legal action against the Colonial Boot Co., whose questionable methods of business we have recently animadverted upon.

J. M. (Warrington).—You are not the only person to claim to have discovered a method enabling one to *see* by telephone. If the idea is practicable, it will add another horror to life.

A. S. (Notts.).—Yes, it is a funny 8 hours for railwaymen when gatemen still work 11.

"A READER."—"Being a great reader of your book, I often see some very straight talk." Little ones have the same luck.

"DOMESTIC FROM EASTBOURNE."—"Let us be respected, instead of being classed as maids." But there is surely no disrespect in that?

"CONFIDENTIAL" (Bristol).—"I can tell you that at the end of April there will be as great a supply of cheese in this country as there ever was at that particular time of the year." Hope you're one of the greater prophets.

O. O. (H.M.S. *Tirade*). Have heard something about "a ship or ships having been sent with sand to Egypt," and believe it was encased in bags——for use in the desert!

Mrs. G. T. (Leamington Spa) thinks that if poor parsons and schoolmasters received a Government fee of 6d. for signing widows' pension-papers they would be more willing to do so.

E. M. (Cowley).—Call in a plumber. Your brain-pan leaks.

M. B. (Leeds).—Marriage with deceased husband's brother is "agin the law," but no doubt some couples do chance their arm.

R. McM. (Glasgow).—"There are many very fine inhabitants of the Emerald Isle." Aroch, now, and don't we know it?

A. B. T. (Liverpool).—We are dealing with the question of foreigners on British ships, and your suggestions may lend style and grace to our treatment of the subject.

"CANADIAN SOLDIER" (Margate).—"Just a line to put in your paper." Thanks; we are keeping it in case of sudden emergency.

"TOPPER" (West Croydon).—"Home on leave, but where is the whisky?" Sorry, sir, no spirits of any kind. Will you have a half of swipes, or a snifter of port?

J. S. (Scarborough).—"What are we coming to?" Too true, but we must keep our socks pulled up.

W. D. (Grimsby).—The Stockwell Watch Co., Stockwell Green, London, S.W., is a ramp. As regards the 2s. you sent, say good bye-ee, and cut your loss.

"PEARL OF GREAT PRICE."—"It is not in High Holborn that fortunes are made. For they pay no Great Price at the Pearl." That sounds like a nasty knock for somebody.

"A BOLSHEVIK."—You have scribbled in red ink over two pages torn from this journal. We cannot jeopardise our sight by trying to decipher it. Write a plain letter like a man—if you are one as well as "A Bolshevik"—and then we'll read it.

A. S.—"I may be wrong, but in my opinion I am right; it is a small matter." So small that we don't care a durn either way.

C. H. (Seaton Delaval).—Want us to suggest "a course of reading to educate you politically and socially"? But for our cursed modesty we could do it.

"FREDERICK" (Bradford).—"The war was not won by Mr. Lloyd George, but the credit is due to a Bradford man. I sent Mr. George a letter, but have not had any answer, and this looks bad for all if not altered, as he is having to work for his living." A fate too terrible for some men to contemplate!

D. P. (Sutton).—Oh, everybody knows about that "certain man" who fell among thieves. He was middling lucky. If he'd lived in these days he would have fallen among profiteers.

J. J. (Farlington) sends us an empty matchbox bearing the printed label, "Safety Matches. Superior Quality. Won't Strike Anywhere. Made in England." Nothing like candour.

A. H. (Catford).—"Why not use enemy guns, rifles, and possibly ships for casting the sections of the Channel Tunnel tubes?" The British and French Governments have plenty of time to think about it.

J. W. T. AND A. G. W. (Old Bailey).—"The revival of the scheme for a motor road right through the heart of the wildest scenery in England"—will make it still wilder.

C. M. W. (Can. Force, France).—"Am writing with my "J.B." self-filler, which is jake-a-loo." A fine, thoughtful letter from a jake-a-loo man!

CPL. W. (Blackheath), "TOMMY" (Plymouth), AND OTHERS.—We do all we can to hurry up repatriation, and hope some of you will be in luck before this appears in print.

L. E. W. (Wandsworth).—Glad to hear you were "demobbed" so quickly. Let us hope the Army authorities will never regret their precipitate haste.

"AMERICAN SOLDIER" (Winchester).—Thanks for your candid letter. You sound as though you could be funny if you liked.

E. DE'L. H. (Cleethorpes).—It is nice to know you admire us so much, although we could tell from your handwriting you were no fool.

"DEMOBILISED" (Tenby).—We should require rather more evidence before publishing your statements. Some people get quite huffy if denounced in print.

SAPR. C. J. F. (B.E.F.).—We can quite understand how some of you railwaymen still serving abroad in khaki feel about your mates at home who are strike mad.

J. J. J. (Wakefield).—Delighted that East Ardsley and Thorpe present gold watches to local heroes. The fool who attempted to "joke" thereon, and signed himself "Avant Courier of JOHN BULL," is, of course, not connected with us in any way. Guess he is some Conchy more likely to prig a watch than win one.

"A BELFAST MAGISTRATE."—The "dirty pigs" who sentenced a girl of twelve to be birched in the presence of a policeman, and went to see it done, were beaks of Clones, which is "County Monaghan," and not "Belfast." We certainly owe an apology to Belfast Magistrates, who are clean bacon.

"A POOR WOMAN" (S.W.).—"Please don't grouse about the margarine." Our words are stronger than grouse. So is the marg.

M. R. F. (Hounslow).—When you wish to write to us again, don't. Dip a spider in your inkpot and dictate the letter to him.

"BADGERY FERRY" (Scotland).—A W.R.A.F. says she has been fined a day's pay for speaking back to a Corporal. That's the worst of back-chat in the Army.

"MAY" (Hampstead).—"What nationality is that Dr. Mary Scharlieb who is so concerned about our public morals that she would banish our dainty undies from the shop windows?" Don't know—probably American.

S. L. (Sidcup).—The first "Bullets" Competition was announced in our issue dated October 9th, 1912. Still running!

"HOPEFUL" (Edinburgh).—Whoever tells you we are buying pennies marked "H" at 3s. 6d. a time is pulling your leg. The letter is only a Mint mark.

"DIGGER" (A.I.F.).—Fancy calling the barlady a "frowsy, fair-haired Phyllis"! Wonder what nice things she says about you?

C. L. (Edmonton).—The P.O. Savings Bank is so dilatory in paying out that depositors will be shy of depositing.

"MUNITIONEERS" (Darwen).—As you have no doubt heard, an extension of time has been granted for Out-of-Work Donations. So now you can smile.

D. W. H. (Pioneer Battalion).—Why are you so severe on soldiers' wives and dependents "acquired during the war"? Surely a man has a right to "acquire his dependents" at his own convenience.

"A READER" (No Address).—"After all, the Bishop of London is only a man." That's a shrewd thrust.

(Many replies are unavoidably held over.)

AN
IDEAL EASTER PRESENT.
THE JOHN BULL PEN.
SEND FOR YOURS TO-DAY.

"JOHN BULL" Pen Coupon. Value 2d.

By sending this Coupon with P.O for 3s. and 1½d. stamps for postage, the holder is entitled to receive a "John Bull" Gold Nibbed Fountain Pen, STANDARD MODEL. Additional Coupons up to 6 from "John Bull" from this date may be saved and used in part payment, each counting as 2d. off the price. Thus, you may send 7 coupons, and P.O. for 2s. only, and 1½d. stamps for postage.

DE LUXE MODEL, 1s. Extra.

Address, Pen Dept., JOHN BULL, Long Acre, London, W.C.2. (April 19th, 1919.)
P.O.'s should be made payable to John Bull, Ltd., and crossed & Co.
N.B.—State whether you prefer a Fine, Medium, or Broad Nib.

CRAYOL CIGARETTE CARTOON—No. 8.

REPATRIATED.

His longing for his Belgian home is mighty,
Yet many things conspire his heart to bind
To Britain's shore, his temporary "Blighty,"
And one dear friend he cannot leave behind:
His CRAYOLS of a fragrance rich and rare
Henceforth are his companions everywhere!

CRAYOL
VIRGINIA CIGARETTES

The only match for a CRAYOL is the one you light it with.

These who like a cigarette made of Oriental tobaccos should also try "KARAM," 10 for 6½d.; 20 for 1s. 1d.

Manufactured by MAJOR DRAPKIN & CO., LONDON, Branch of the United Kingdom Tobacco Company, Limited.

10 for 5½d.
20 for 10½d.

P.C.B.—54

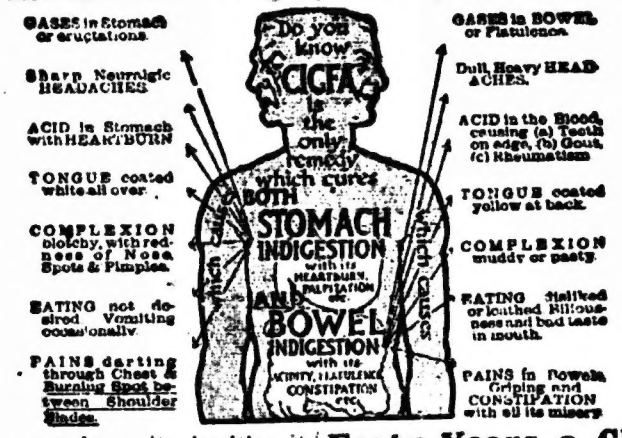
IT'S INDIGESTION
Not the Liver

When you are travelling, visiting, or eating away from home it is not the Liver, it is Bowel indigestion which causes that troublesome CONSTIPATION———The only cure is CICFA.

READ THE REASON WHY

You have a Liver. You think it is affected. The chances are 10 to 1 that your Liver itself is perfectly sound, but its action is being upset by frequently dosing it with purgatives, etc., and as a consequence your food is not digesting, but fermenting and creating gases.

As it is rolled down the Bowel the starchy part, like bread, potatoes, beans, etc., is formed into little hard dry masses or "Starch Balls," which block the passage, and you have Constipation, also a defective Bile Circulation. Fermentation continues, and acids and impurities from the undigested food are absorbed through the wall of the Bowel into the blood and poured on into the Liver. Though your Liver may be quite healthy, it is soon overworked and giving you troublesome symptoms; therefore your symptoms are not due to an affected Liver, but to those acids and impurities which are formed by indigestion in the Bowel and carried on to the Liver.


GASES in Stomach or eructations
Sharp Neuralgic HEADACHES
ACID in Stomach with HEARTBURN
TONGUE coated white all over
COMPLEXION blotchy, with redness of Nose Spots & Pimples
EATING not desired Vomiting occasionally
PAINS darting through Chest & Burning Spot between Shoulder Blades
Do you know CICFA is the Only Remedy which cures BOTH STOMACH INDIGESTION with its HEARTBURN, PALPITATION etc. AND BOWEL INDIGESTION with its ACIDITY, FLATULENCE CONSTIPATION etc.
GASES in BOWEL or Flatulence
Dull, Heavy HEADACHES
ACID in the Blood, causing (a) Teeth on edge, (b) Gout, (c) Rheumatism
TONGUE coated yellow at back
COMPLEXION muddy or pasty
EATING Nauseated or loathed Biliousness and bad taste in mouth
PAINS in Bowels Griping and CONSTIPATION with all its misery

Your blood becomes impure and more acid, affecting your joints and deep muscles, causing Rheumatism, Lumbago, and Sciatica.

It is therefore useless to treat the Rheumatism, the Lumbago, the Sciatica, or the Liver. They are not at fault. The fault lies in the Bowel Indigestion. You must cure that Indigestion.

Probably you suffer also from Acid Dyspepsia.

Whether you have Acid Dyspepsia or some other form of Stomach Indigestion, it should receive immediate attention, because each stage of Digestion affects each succeeding stage, so that the upsetting of digestion in one portion of the tract quickly affects digestion in other portions. Ordinary indigestion remedies, such as Pepsin, Bismuth, Soda, Rhubarb, etc., cannot therefore be expected to cure you for at best they can only help in local spots, **while any remedy which can Cure must be able to correct the errors of Digestion wherever they are occurring throughout the whole alimentary tract.**

Cicfa is the only preparation which can do this, and Cicfa has this power because its discoverer succeeded in combining such Digestive Ferments as would ensure perfect digestion at every point along the whole alimentary tract.

Cicfa therefore cures because it ensures complete digestion of all the Albuminous food in the stomach and all the Starchy Food in the Bowel, corrects the Bile Circulation, prevents fermentation and the formation of "Starch Balls," so that all the nourishment is absorbed into the blood, the refuse is normal, and there can be no Constipation. Cicfa, in fact, contains that perfect combination of Digestive Ferments which Nature requires to ensure this. That's why Cicfa cures.

Cicfa has been taken up by over 16,000 British doctors, many of whom have written us of the splendid results secured upon themselves and patients by Cicfa.

Forty Years a Chemist, never recommended patent medicines, but he recommends and uses CICFA. Read what he says:

8th Feb., 1919.

I am writing to inform you of the great benefit I have derived from Cicfa. I have been a sufferer from Indigestion for some time, and have tried many remedies without effect. A friend persuaded me to try Cicfa, and the result has been marvellous. **All fermentation of food and flatulence have disappeared,** and I look forward with pleasure to a meal instead of dread, as formerly. **I have been in business as a Chemist for over 40 years,** and have never recommended patent medicines, but I can with confidence **advise any sufferer** from indigestion to **give Cicfa a trial.**

(Signed) "G."

16,000 BRITISH DOCTORS have taken up Cicfa. Very many of them have written us privately of the splendid results which they have obtained by its use. **When thousands of British doctors are satisfied with Cicfa, you do not need a sample with which to test it. There can be no better proof.** You can proceed to take it at once. Purchase from your Chemist. **(All Chemists sell Cicfa at 1s. 3d. and 3s.)** There is NO SHORTAGE of CICFA, which you CAN OBTAIN from ALL CHEMISTS, or if there is delay, from us, on receipt of Postal Order or Stamps.

THE CICFA COMPANY,
8a, Duke Street, Manchester Square, London.

JOHN BULL, 19.4.19.

FARM BOOTS

Stout Black Chrome Waterproof Double Tongue Derby Pattern with Toecap, as illustrated.

Nailed in groups of Three to prevent slipping.

Cash with Order,

32/6

Style No. 129.

Sizes 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 (Size 12, 1/- extra). Each size made in three different widths: No. 4 (Medium), No. 5 (Wide), No. 6 (Extra Wide).

Write for our 104-page Catalogue.
THE MAXIMUM SHOE CO., LTD., Dept. 70, Maximum Works, Northampton.

BLOOD & SKIN TROUBLES CURED

All Blood and Skin Troubles can now be cured, including Eczema, Sores, Eruptions, Bad Legs, Abscesses, Carbuncles, Ulcers, Acne, Glandular Swellings, Piles, Blotches, Psoriasis, etc., etc. An illustrated book explaining this never-failing South African Remedy, will be sent gratis and post free together with a liberal trial supply of 'Domigo,' to all sending 6d. stamps and mentioning "John Bull." Don't suffer any longer. Accept this offer. Write to-day to:—The Domigo Co. (Dept. J.B.), 168, Aldersgate St., London, E.C

TRIAL TREATMENT 6D.

HEADACHE & NEURALGIA

Daisy Cures Always

Next time you have a headache or neuralgic attack, do the safe, sensible, modern thing—take a DAISY, and in from two to five minutes you'll be *cured* and perfectly free from pain.

DAISY

A 2d. HEADACHE CURE for 2d.

GET A FEW DAISIES to-day and be prepared for the next attack. 2d each; 3 for 1/-; 25 for 9/-; 60 for 6/-.

DAISY, LTD., LEEDS.

CAMERAS
NEW AND SECONDHAND

Lists free. Anything on approval. Fine model Cameras at half-price. Latest Model new Kodaks and Newman and Guardia Cameras.

Developing and Printing by return if permanent address or references given.

Wallace Heaton Ltd INCORPORATING Warwick Photo Stores

19 Change Alley SHEFFIELD (orders by post)

London Branch: 119 New Bond St. LONDON W.1

"A Stitch in Time"—accept our Free Fire offer on page 16.

'BULLETS'

BIGGEST PRIZES £200

1ST PRIZE £200 — 2ND PRIZE £20 — 3RD PRIZE £10 — 1ST PRIZE

10 PRIZES OF £5	10 PRIZES OF £2 10	25 PRIZES OF 10s.	200 PRIZES OF 5s.	1,000 PRIZES OF 2s. 6d.	3,000 "TARGET" PRIZES.

☛ **Please note that next week "Bullets" First Prize will be increased to £500.**

HOW TO MAKE "BULLETS."

First choose any of the Thirty examples given below. Then give **TWO, THREE** or **FOUR** words having some bearing on the examples chosen. Any **ONE** of the words selected must begin with **ANY** letter in the example chosen. The other words selected can begin with any letters in the alphabet. These examples will guide you:—Example: Out Of Work. Bullet:—Nobody Ought To Be. Example: His Next Job. Bullet:—Hard To Find. Competitors may send in two BULLETS for Sixpence. If more coupons are used an entry fee at the rate of 6d. for each coupon must be sent. Result of this Competition will be found in our issue dated May 10th.

LIST OF EXAMPLES FOR "BULLETS" COMPETITION No. 328.

WILSON'S DECISION	SETTLING BILL	BOTTOMLEY'S SEAT	HIS NEXT JOB	GRASS WIDOW
WAITING FOR PEACE	GERMAN TROUBLES	BACKING THE WINNER	SMALL CONSOLATION	ONE TOO MANY
ON A SURE THING	THE WRONG HOUSE	GOOD EGG	ON THE GO	LADY HELPS
IN LODGINGS	MAKING GOOD	NOT AT HOME	LITTLE WONDER	KEEPING HIS PLACE
LEADING A DANCE	OUT OF REACH	CAPITAL	NOT AT ANY PRICE	CARRYING ON
TELEPHONE GIRL	PAINLESS EXTRACTION	OUT OF WORK	MY UMBRELLA	A GOOD EXAMPLE

No. ___ Closing Date, Thursday, April 26th.

Example _____

Bullet _____

Example _____

Bullet _____

(328) P.O. No. _____

I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.

Signed _____

Address _____

If 2 coupons are used P.O. for 6d. must be sent.

☛ IF UNABLE TO SECURE EXTRA COUPONS YOU CAN WRITE YOUR "BULLETS" ON PLAIN PAPER.

No. ___ Closing Date, Thursday, April 26th.

Example _____

Bullet _____

Example _____

Bullet _____

(328) P.O. No. _____

I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page.

Signed _____

Address _____

If 2 coupons are used P.O. for 1/- must be sent.

ENVELOPES SHOULD BE MARKED "BULLETS" No 328. "JOHN BULL," LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.2

Write "Competition" in top left-hand corner of the envelope.

Next Week's Selection of Examples for "Bullets" Competition No. 329.

WHEN WILSON RETURNS—MR. HENPECK—SADDER AND WISER—ALL I WANT IS—HOWLING SWELLS—GETTING HOME—A BIG MISTAKE—AWAITING ORDERS—HARDLY WON—RUBBING IT IN—SOUR GRAPES—FATHER'S KID—PAYING FOR DEFEAT—HE SAID TO HER—TOMMY'S RECORD—A HOT FAVOURITE—WINNING ON POINTS—GOOD LIVING—NOT GUILTY—BETTER PAY.

These examples can be made use of on the coupons above, and must reach us on or before **THURSDAY, MAY 1st.** All coupons so used **MUST** be clearly marked with the number 329 in the top left-hand corner, and envelopes containing these coupons must be addressed "Bullets," **No. 329,** "John Bull," Long Acre, London, W.C.2. Such coupons must not contain any of the Thirty examples for competition 328.

BULLETS RULES.

1. The First Prize will be awarded for what, in the opinion of the Judge, in consultation with the Editor, is the best "Bullet" received, and the other prizes in order of merit, the test being cleverness, aptness and originality. The right to divide a prize or prizes among two or more competitors is reserved.
2. Bullets must be plainly written on one of the coupons, and only two attempts may be written on each coupon.
3. Both coupons may be used, but each coupon must be accompanied by a postal order for 6d. made payable to JOHN BULL and crossed and Co
4. Competitors must write their names and addresses and the date of sending the order on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Competitors sending more than one coupon may enclose one postal order for the full amount covering the number of their coupons. Coupons must not be defaced in any manner.
5. All coupons arriving too late to be judged with absolute thoroughness will be duly returned to their respective senders.
6. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet received shall have careful consideration by a competent staff of qualified judges.
7. The Editor's decision on any matter of dispute arising in connection with this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

Mr. C. H. Hunter, 113, Rainham Rd., Chatham:
Without Success—Bottomley Never Pictured End.

Capt. W. Dewhurst, Dipton, Newcastle-on-T.:
The Miners Hope—They Don't, They Demand.

Mrs. M. E. Morgan, "Cantref," Havard Road, Llanelly, South Wales:
The Best Way—Education Points, Experience Teaches.

Mr. L. Moss, 141, Thorpe Road, Melton Mowbray:
The Kaiser's Head—"Came Off" During Election.

Result of 325th "Bullets" Competition.

FIRST PRIZE OF £1,000:

Mr. NELSON W. EVANS, 8, Cherryville Street, Belfast.

Example:—Upside Down.
Bullet:—Government Holding Taxpayer Soon.

SECOND PRIZE OF £100:

Mr. GEORGE CLARK, c.o. Mr. Spreson, 6, Church Street, Wolverhampton.

Example:—A Big Navy.
Bullet:—Any "Reduction" Bad "Bargain."

THIRD PRIZE OF £25:

Mr. A. McAINSH, 7, Tankerville Road, Streatham Common, London, S.W. 16.

Example:—Utter Rubbish.
Bullet:—Eaten—Written—Spoken—Drunk.

10 PRIZES OF £5 EACH:

Mr. J. Dunbar, Ballykeel, Holywood, Co. Down Ireland:
What Bottomley Promises—"New Life" To Tommy.

Mr. G. Marsh, 4, Livingstone Road, Hove:
Wilson Thinks That—Throwing Weight, Carries It.

Mr. H. Newton, 10, Bold Square, Chester:
Like His Dad—Future Hun Mustn't Be.

Mr. C. M. Brown, 7, Moss Street, Dublin:
A Wise Man—Wouldn't "Stand By" Idle.

Mr. T. P. Lightbody, 189, Pitt St., Glasgow:
Fighting For Existence—"Lot" Had To Go.

Mr. A. W. Bradgate, 25, The Gardens, East Dulwich, S.E.:
Taking His Medicine—Kaiser Pictured Whole World.
(Sent in on a Free "Target" Prize Coupon.)

Mrs. E. Cowie, 17, Hartington Street, Barrow-in-Furness:
Who's Boss?—Stranger To England Asks.

Mr. D. Smart, 21, Sunnyside Road, Ilford:
The Best Way—But "Toll" Was Heavy.

Mr. H. E. Litten, 2, Beaumont Avenue, Wellsted Street, Hull:
Mary Ann—England Mustn't Be Europe's.

Mr. E. C. Physall, Ivy Hatch, Sevenoaks:
Changed Times—Positions Sought—Not Stormed.

10 PRIZES OF £2 10s. EACH:

Mr. A. C. Tee, 114, Wormholt Rd., London, W.12.:
There's No Telling—Government Official, War's Over.

Mr. F. T. Steane, 40, King St., Maidenhead:
Not For Sale—Only For Temptation.

Mr. R. Hughes, 22, Salem Terrace, Llwynypia, Rhondda:
The Prime Minister—Great Reputation "In Danger."

Mr. P. G. Coudry, 107, Brightfield Rd., Lee, S.E.:
Asking Too Much—Of Patriotism, Kills It.
(Sent in on a Free "Target" Prize Coupon.)

Mr. G. W. Dodds, Station Lane, Seaton Carew, R.S.O.:
The Best Way—Government Apparently Think "Perplexing."

Mr. H. Peat, 64, Cromwell St., Stockton-on-Tees:
Upside Down—World, But Diplomats "Undisturbed."

List of 10s. Prize-winners in "Bullets" Competition 325 will be published in next week's "Competitors' Journal." Complete List of all Cash and other Prize-winners can be seen at the offices of "John Bull."

JOHN BULL'S

GREAT FREE FIRE INSURANCE.

COVERING ALL RISKS BY FIRE TO HOME, LIFE AND LIMB.

UNDER this most unique FREE INSURANCE OFFER anyone above the age of 10 can be insured irrespective of sex.

The premium charged by any Fire and Accident Insurance Company to secure similar benefits would certainly exceed 8s per annum We offer it to you absolutely free

We have made our insurance as simple and comprehensive as possible, and shall not bother about any "Legal representative" or "next of kin." Claims will be paid to the registered reader, who must personally sign the coupon, or to the person nominated thereon, and to no one else.

A separate coupon must be filled up in respect to each person to be insured.

This offer applies only to persons residing in, and property situated in, England, Scotland, and Wales.

The full conditions governing this scheme will be published from time to time.

ORDER FORM

To be Retained by Newsagent.

To .....Newsagent.

.....

Please deliver JOHN BULL to me regularly until further notice

Signed.....

Address .....

.....

April 19, 1919.

You must also fill in the Registration Form, which will be found next to this, and post it to JOHN BULL Insurance Dept., 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.2, where your name and the name of your nominee will be duly registered.

REGISTRATION FORM

Which must be posted to—
JOHN BULL INSURANCE DEPT., Long Acre, W.C.2.

This is to notify that I have this day placed an order for the regular weekly supply of JOHN BULL with

.....Newsagent, of

.....

and desire you to register me as a regular subscriber under the terms of your Insurance Scheme.

In the event of my being injured or killed, or of my home or its contents being damaged, I hereby nominate to receive any payment due under this insurance, first myself, or in the event of my death:—

Name of Nominee.....

Address.....

Signature of Insured.....
(Mr., Mrs., or Miss)

Address of home.....

April 19, 1919. .....

WHAT WE WILL PAY

For Damage to contents of Home by Fire up to ...	£200
In Case of Death directly due to Fire at Registered Reader's home	£200
For the Loss of Two Limbs or both Eyes, or One Limb and One Eye ...	£200
For the Loss of One Limb or One Eye	£100
Medical Fees for Injuries not proving fatal but incapacitating the injured person from following his, or her, employment, up to ...	£10
In the event of a Temporary Total Disablement up to 13 weeks	£1 Per Week

To remain qualified for the benefits, readers must continue to have "John Bull" regularly supplied to them.

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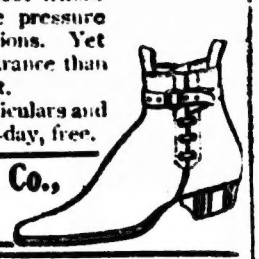

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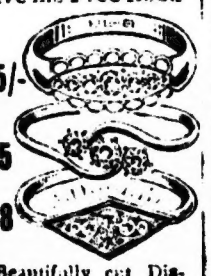

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